PARTNERRE LTD Form 10-K February 24, 2012 Table of Contents

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-14536

PartnerRe Ltd.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Bermuda Not Applicable

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer incorporation or organization)

90 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke, Bermuda (Address of principal executive offices)

(441) 292-0888

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class Common Shares, \$1.00 par value Name of each exchange on which registered New York Stock Exchange, NYSE Euronext Paris,

> Bermuda Stock Exchange New York Stock Exchange

6.75% Series C Cumulative Preferred Shares,

New York Stock Exchange

\$1.00 par value 6.50% Series D Cumulative Preferred Shares,

New York Stock Exchange

\$1.00 par value 7.25% Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares,

New York Stock Exchange

\$1.00 par value

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes "No x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer "

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act.) Yes "No x

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of most recently completed second fiscal quarter (June 30, 2011) was \$4,654,659,330 based on the closing sales price of the registrant s common shares of \$68.85 on that date.

The number of the registrant s common shares (par value \$1.00 per share) outstanding, net of treasury shares, as of February 17, 2012 was 65,392,803.

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

Document

Part(s) Into Which Incorporated

Portions of the registrant s definitive proxy statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, relating to the registrant s Annual General Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held May 16, 2012 are incorporated by reference into Part II and Part III of this report. With the exception of the portions of the Proxy Statement specifically incorporated herein by reference, the Proxy Statement is not deemed to be filed as part of this report.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
PART I		
Item 1.	Business	2
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	30
Item 1B.	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	45
Item 2.	<u>Properties</u>	45
Item 3.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	45
Item 4.	Mine Safety Disclosures	45
PART II		
Item 5.	Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	46
Item 6.	Selected Financial Data	48
Item 7.	Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	50
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	133
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	142
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	204
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures	204
Item 9B.	Other Information	207
PART III		
Item 10.	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	207
Item 11.	Executive Compensation	207
Item 12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	207
Item 13.	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	207
Item 14.	Principal Accountant Fees and Services	207
PART IV		
Item 15.	Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules	208

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

PartnerRe Ltd. has made statements under the captions Business, Risk Factors, Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, particularly under the captions 2012 Outlook (or similarly captioned sections) and in other sections of this annual report on Form 10-K that are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as may, might, will, should, expects, plans, anticipates, believes, estimates, predicts, potential, or continue, the negative of comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements, which are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about us, may include projections of our future financial performance, our anticipated growth strategies and anticipated trends in our business. These statements are only predictions based on our current expectations and projections about future events. There are important factors that could cause our actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to differ materially from the results, level of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements, including those factors described under the caption entitled Risk Factors. You should specifically consider the numerous risks outlined under Risk Factors.

Although we believe the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Moreover, neither we nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any of these forward-looking statements. We are under no duty to update any of these forward-looking statements after the date of this annual report on Form 10-K to conform our prior statements to actual results or revised expectations.

1

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS General

PartnerRe Ltd. (the Company, PartnerRe or we), incorporated in Bermuda in August 1993, is the ultimate holding company for our international reinsurance group. The Company provides reinsurance on a worldwide basis through its wholly owned subsidiaries, including Partner Reinsurance Company Ltd. (PartnerRe Bermuda), Partner Reinsurance Europe plc (PartnerRe Europe) and Partner Reinsurance Company of the U.S. (PartnerRe U.S.). Risks reinsured include, but are not limited to, property, casualty, motor, agriculture, aviation/space, catastrophe, credit/surety, engineering, energy, marine, specialty property, specialty casualty, multiline and other lines and mortality, longevity and health. The Company also offers alternative risk products that include weather and credit protection to financial, industrial and service companies on a worldwide basis.

In 1997, recognizing the limits of a continued monoline strategy, the Company shifted its strategic focus to become a leading multiline reinsurer. In July 1997, the Company completed the acquisition of SAFR (subsequently renamed PartnerRe SA), a well-established global professional reinsurer based in Paris. In December 1998, the Company completed the acquisition of the reinsurance operations of Winterthur Re, further enhancing the Company s expansion strategy.

In December 2009, the Company completed the acquisition of PARIS RE Holdings Limited (Paris Re), a French-listed, Swiss-based holding company and its operating subsidiaries. The Consolidated Statements of Operations and Cash Flows include the results of Paris Re for the period from October 2, 2009, the date of acquisition of the controlling interest (Acquisition Date). This acquisition provided the Company with enhanced strategic and financial flexibility in a less predictable and more limited growth environment.

Business Strategy

The Company assumes and manages global re/insurance and capital markets risks. Its strategy is founded on a capital-based risk appetite and the selected risks that Management believes will allow the Company to meet its goals for appropriate profitability and risk management within that appetite. Management believes that this construct allows the Company to balance cedants—need for absolute certainty of claims payment with its shareholders—need for an appropriate return on their capital. Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Operating ROE) and compound annual growth rate in diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Diluted Book Value per Share) are two of the key metrics used by Management to measure the Company is results. Consequently, the Company has set a goal of an average 13% Operating ROE over a reinsurance cycle and a compound annual growth rate of 10% in Diluted Book Value per Share after the payment of dividends over a reinsurance cycle. See Key Financial Measures in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a detailed discussion of the key measures, used by the Company to evaluate its financial performance, including definitions and basis of calculation.

The Company has adopted the following five-point strategy:

We are diversified across products and insurance markets: PartnerRe writes most lines of reinsurance business in approximately 150 countries worldwide and is open to assuming reinsurance-like risks to further diversify its portfolio. Management believes diversification is a competitive advantage, which increases return per unit of risk, provides access to risk worldwide and reduces the overall volatility of results. Diversification is also the cornerstone of the Company s risk management approach. The reinsurance business is cyclical, but reinsurance cycles by line of business and by geography are rarely synchronized.

We have an appetite for risk provided it helps us deliver superior risk-adjusted returns: PartnerRe is in the business of assuming risk for appropriate return. The Company s products address accumulation risks, complex coverage issues and large exposures faced by clients. The Company s book of business is focused on severity lines of business such as casualty, catastrophe, specialized property and aviation. The Company is willing to

assume such above average risk, but only if the pricing implies significantly above average risk-adjusted returns. The Company s diversification enables it to assume risks that are individually large for our clients, but are more easily diversified within PartnerRe s portfolio. The Company also writes frequency lines of business such as property, motor and life, which have historically provided modestly lower levels of returns with less volatility.

We manage our capital to optimize long-term returns while maintaining an appropriate risk profile: PartnerRe s business is cyclical and the Company responds to that reality. The Company seeks to manage its capital to optimize shareholder returns over the reinsurance cycle, but it will not unbalance the portfolio by writing only the business that offers the highest return at any point in time. In order to manage capital appropriately across a portfolio and over a reinsurance cycle, the Company believes two things are critical: an appropriate and common measure of risk-adjusted performance and the ability and willingness to redeploy capital for its most efficient and effective use, either within the business or by returning capital to shareholders. To achieve effective and efficient capital allocation, the Company focuses on Operating ROE, supported by strong actuarial and financial analysis.

We create value through superior risk evaluation and intelligent portfolio and relationship management: The Company s technical underwriting, actuarial and portfolio management skills enable the Company to create value by evaluating, valuing and underwriting risk. The company focuses on overall portfolio profitability. The aim is not to select a few highly profitable transactions in any year, but to build sustainable portfolios that can deliver superior returns over several years.

We enhance overall returns through our invested assets in the context of a risk framework appropriate for a reinsurance organization: Strong underwriting must be complemented with prudent financial management, careful reserving and superior asset management in order to achieve the Company s targeted returns. When selecting asset strategies, the Company s priority is to support the reinsurance operations. The Company is willing to take some additional risk on its assets if it helps us generate extra return, but this risk-taking will never put at risk its reinsurance operation. The Company s principal business is the assumption of insurance risk. We will not use insurance or reinsurance as a means of raising funds to pursue other goals.

Reinsurance Operations

General

The Company provides reinsurance for its clients in approximately 150 countries around the world. Through its branches and subsidiaries, the Company provides reinsurance of non-life and life risks to ceding companies (primary insurers, cedants or reinsureds) on either a proportional or non-proportional basis through treaties or facultative reinsurance. The Company s offices are located in Beijing, Hamilton (Bermuda), Dublin, Greenwich (Connecticut), Hong Kong, Labuan, Mexico City, Miami, Montreal, New York, Paris, Santiago, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo, Toronto, Washington, D.C., Zug and Zurich.

In a proportional (or quota share) treaty reinsurance agreement, the reinsurer assumes a proportional share of the original premiums and losses incurred by the cedant. The reinsurer pays the ceding company a commission, which is generally based on the ceding company s cost of acquiring the business being reinsured (including commissions, premium taxes, assessments and miscellaneous administrative expenses) and may also include a profit.

In a non-proportional (or excess of loss) treaty reinsurance agreement the reinsurer indemnifies the reinsured against all or a specified portion of losses on underlying insurance policies in excess of a specified amount, which is called a retention or attachment point. Non-proportional business is written in layers and a reinsurer or group of reinsurers accepts a band of coverage up to a specified amount. The total coverage purchased by the cedant is referred to as a program and is typically placed with predetermined reinsurers in pre-negotiated layers. Any liability exceeding the upper limit of the program reverts to the ceding company.

In a facultative (proportional or non-proportional) reinsurance agreement the reinsurer assumes individual risks. The reinsurer separately rates and underwrites each risk rather than assuming all or a portion of a class of risks as in the case of treaty reinsurance.

The Company monitors the performance of its operations in three segments, Non-life, Life and Corporate & Other. Segments and the sub-segments of the Company s Non-life segment represent markets that are reasonably homogeneous in terms of geography, client types, buying patterns, underlying risk patterns and approach to risk management. The composition of the Non-life and Life segments is described in more detail below. Corporate and Other is comprised of the capital markets and investment related activities of the Company, including principal finance transactions, insurance-linked securities and strategic investments, and its corporate activities, including other operating expenses.

The following table summarizes the Company s gross premiums written by segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

2011	2010	2009
\$ 3,831	\$4,132	\$ 3,398
790	749	595
12	4	8
	\$ 3,831 790	\$ 3,831 \$ 4,132 790 749

\$ 4.633

\$4,885

\$4,001

The Company s Non-life and Life business is geographically diversified with premiums being written on a world-wide basis. See Note 22 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for additional disclosure of the geographic distribution of gross premiums written and financial information about segments and sub-segments.

Non-life Segment

Total

The Non-life segment is divided into four sub-segments, North America, Global (Non-U.S.) Property and Casualty (Global (Non-U.S.) P&C), Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty and Catastrophe. The North America sub-segment includes agriculture, casualty, motor, multiline, property, surety and other risks generally originating in the United States. The Global (Non-U.S.) P&C sub-segment includes casualty, motor and property business generally originating outside of the United States. The Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segment is comprised of business that is generally considered to be specialized due to the sophisticated technical underwriting required to analyze risks, and is global in nature. This sub-segment consists of several lines of business for which the Company believes it has developed specialized knowledge and underwriting capabilities. These lines of business include agriculture, aviation/space, credit/surety, energy, engineering, marine, specialty casualty, specialty property and other lines. The Catastrophe sub-segment is comprised of the Company s catastrophe line of business.

The following table summarizes the gross premiums written in each of the Company s Non-life sub-segments for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars and as a percentage of the total gross premiums written in the Company s Non-life segment):

Non-life sub-segment	2011		2010		2009)
North America	\$ 1,104	29%	\$ 1,028	25%	\$ 1,162	34%
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C	682	18	909	22	677	20
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	1,446	38	1,479	36	1,159	34
Catastrophe	599	15	716	17	400	12
Total	\$ 3,831	100%	\$ 4,132	100%	\$ 3,398	100%

The gross premiums written in each Non-life sub-segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, and the year over year comparisons, are described in Results by Segment in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

Lines of Business

The following table summarizes the gross premiums written by line of business in the Company s Non-life segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars and as a percentage of the total gross premiums written in the Company s Non-life segment):

Line of business	2011		2010		2009	
Property and casualty						
Casualty	\$ 510	13%	\$ 519	13%	\$ 506	15%
Property	676	18	862	21	714	21
Motor	229	6	311	7	249	7
Multiline and other	71	2	73	2	72	2
Specialty						
Agriculture	292	8	180	4	305	9
Aviation/Space	235	6	241	6	198	6
Catastrophe	599	15	716	17	400	12
Credit/Surety	326	8	292	7	234	7
Energy	115	3	113	3	107	3
Engineering	189	5	192	5	212	6
Marine	334	9	330	8	200	6
Specialty casualty	108	3	172	4	129	4
Specialty property	147	4	131	3	72	2
Total Non-life segment	\$ 3,831	100%	\$ 4,132	100%	\$ 3,398	100%

The following discussion summarizes the business written in each line of business in the Company s Non-life segment.

Agriculture The Company reinsures, primarily on a proportional basis, agricultural yield and price/revenue risks related to flood, drought, hail and disease related to crops, livestock and aquaculture.

Aviation/Space The Company provides specialized reinsurance protection for airline, general aviation and space insurance business primarily on a proportional basis and through facultative arrangements. Its space business relates to coverages for satellite assembly, launch and operation for commercial space programs.

Casualty The Company s casualty business includes third party liability, employers liability, workers compensation and personal accident coverages written on both a proportional and non-proportional basis, including structured reinsurance of casualty risks.

Catastrophe The Company provides property catastrophe reinsurance protection, written primarily on a non-proportional basis, against the accumulation of losses caused by windstorm, earthquake, tornado, tropical cyclone, flood or by any other natural hazard that is covered under a comprehensive property policy. Through the use of underwriting tools based on proprietary computer models developed by its research team, the Company combines natural science with highly professional underwriting skills in order to offer capacity at a price commensurate with the risk.

Credit/Surety Credit reinsurance, written primarily on a proportional basis, provides coverage to commercial credit insurers, and the surety line relates primarily to bonds and other forms of security written by specialized surety insurers.

Energy (Energy Onshore) The Company provides reinsurance coverage for the onshore oil and gas industry, mining, power generation and pharmaceutical operations primarily on a proportional basis and through facultative arrangements.

Table of Contents

Engineering The Company provides reinsurance for engineering projects throughout the world, predominantly on a proportional treaty basis and through facultative arrangements.

Marine (Marine/Energy Offshore) The Company provides reinsurance protection and technical services relating to marine hull, cargo, transit and offshore oil and gas operations on a proportional or non-proportional basis.

Motor The Company s motor business includes reinsurance coverages for third party liability and property damage risks arising from both passenger and commercial fleet automobile coverages written by cedants. This business is written predominantly on a proportional basis.

Multiline The Company s multiline business provides both property and casualty reinsurance coverages written on both a proportional and non-proportional basis.

Property Property business provides reinsurance coverage to insurers for property damage or business interruption losses resulting from fires, catastrophes and other perils covered in industrial and commercial property and homeowners policies and is written on both a proportional and non-proportional basis. The Company s most significant exposure is typically to losses from windstorm, tornado and earthquake, although the Company is exposed to losses from sources as diverse as freezes, riots, floods, industrial explosions, fires, hail and a number of other loss events. The Company s predominant exposure under these property coverages is to property damage. However, other risks, including business interruption and other non-property losses may also be covered under a property reinsurance contract when arising from a covered peril. In accordance with market practice, the Company s property reinsurance treaties generally exclude certain risks such as war, nuclear, biological and chemical contamination, radiation and environmental pollution.

Specialty Casualty The Company provides specialized reinsurance protection for non-U.S. casualty business that requires specialized underwriting expertise due to the nature of the underlying risk or the complexity of the reinsurance treaty. This reinsurance protection is offered on a proportional, non-proportional or facultative basis.

Specialty Property The Company provides specialized reinsurance protection for non-U.S. property business that requires specialized underwriting expertise due to the nature of the underlying risk or the complexity of the reinsurance treaty. This reinsurance protection is offered on a proportional, non-proportional or facultative basis.

Distribution

The Company s Non-life business is produced both through brokers and through direct relationships with insurance companies. In North America, business is primarily written through brokers, while in the rest of the world, the business is written on both a direct and broker basis.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company had two brokers that individually accounted for 10% or more of its total Non-life gross premiums written. The Aon Group (including the Benfield Group) accounted for approximately 28% of total Non-life gross premiums written, while Marsh (including Guy Carpenter) accounted for approximately 25% of total Non-life gross premiums written. The following table summarizes the combined percentage of gross premiums written through these two brokers by Non-life sub-segment for the year ended December 31, 2011:

Non-life sub-segment	2011
North America	64%
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C	29
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	43
Catastrophe	81

6

Competition

The Company competes with other reinsurers, some of which have greater financial, marketing and management resources than the Company, and it also competes with new market entrants. Competition in the types of reinsurance that the Company underwrites is based on many factors, including the perceived financial strength of the reinsurer, pricing and other terms and conditions, services provided, ratings assigned by independent rating agencies, speed of claims payment and reputation and experience in the lines of reinsurance to be written.

The Company s competitors include independent reinsurance companies, subsidiaries or affiliates of established worldwide insurance companies, and reinsurance departments of certain primary insurance companies. Management believes that the Company s major competitors are the larger European, U.S. and Bermuda-based international reinsurance companies, as well as specialty reinsurers and regional companies in certain local markets. These competitors include, but are not limited to, Munich Re, Swiss Re, Everest Re, Hannover Re, SCOR, Transatlantic and reinsurance operations of certain primary insurance companies, such as Arch Capital, Axis Capital and XL Group.

Management believes the Company ranks among the world s largest professional reinsurers and is well positioned in terms of client services and underwriting expertise. Furthermore, the Company s capitalization and strong financial ratios allow the Company to offer security to its clients.

Life Segment

Lines of Business

Total Life segment

The Company s Life segment includes the mortality, longevity and health lines of business written primarily in the United Kingdom (U.K.), Ireland and France. The Company does not write any new life business in the U.S. The following table summarizes the gross premiums written by line of business in the Company s Life segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars as a percentage of the total gross premiums written in the Company s Life segment):

Line of business	2011		2010)	2009)
Mortality	\$ 566	72%	\$ 524	70%	\$ 480	80%
Longevity	203	25	205	27	93	16
Health	21	3	20	3	22	4

The gross premiums written in the Life segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, and the year over year comparisons, are described in Results by Segment in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

\$ 790

100%

\$ 749

100%

\$ 595

100%

The following discussion summarizes the business written in the Company s Life segment by line of business.

Mortality The Company provides reinsurance coverage to primary life insurers and pension funds to protect against individual and group mortality and disability risks. Mortality business is written primarily on a proportional basis through treaty agreements. Mortality business is subdivided into death and disability covers (with various riders) primarily written in Continental Europe, term assurance and critical illness (TCI) primarily written in the U.K. and Ireland, and guaranteed minimum death benefit (GMDB) primarily written in Continental Europe. The Company also writes certain treaties on a non-proportional basis, primarily in France.

Longevity The Company provides reinsurance coverage to employer sponsored pension schemes and primary life insurers who issue annuity contracts offering long-term retirement benefits to consumers, who seek protection against outliving their financial resources. Longevity business is written on a long term, proportional basis primarily in the U.K. The Company s longevity portfolio is subdivided into standard and non-standard

Table of Contents

annuities. The non-standard annuities are annuities sold to consumers with aggravated health conditions and are usually medically underwritten on an individual basis. The main risk the Company is exposed to by writing longevity business is an increase in the future life span of the insured compared to the expected life span.

Health The Company provides reinsurance coverage to primary life insurers with respect to individual and group health risks.

Other than gross premiums written, Management uses the following metrics to measure the growth of the Company s mortality and longevity business.

For the mortality book of business, Management uses reinsurance business in force as a growth measure. Reinsurance business in force reflects the addition or acquisition of new mortality business, offset by terminations (e.g., voluntary surrenders of underlying life insurance policies, lapses of underlying policies, deaths of insureds, and the exercises of recapture option by cedants), changes in foreign exchange, and any other changes in the amount of insurance in force. The term in force refers to the aggregate insurance policy face amounts, or net amounts at risk. The net assumed business in force for the mortality line of business, including health, was \$198 billion, \$191 billion and \$203 billion at December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in business in force to \$198 billion at December 31, 2011 from \$191 billion at December 31, 2010 was primarily driven by TCI business written in the U.K. The decrease in business in force from \$203 billion at December 31, 2009 to \$191 billion at December 31, 2010 was primarily due to the weakening of the euro against the U.S. dollar and a decrease in the sum at risk related to term assurance business.

For the longevity book of business, Management uses net present value of expected future benefits as a growth measure. The net present value of expected future annuity payments related to the Company s longevity business (assuming a 4% discount rate) was \$3,595 million, \$2,932 million and \$832 million at December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in net present value of expected future annuity payments from \$832 million at December 31, 2009 to \$2,932 million at December 31, 2010 and to \$3,595 million at December 31, 2011 was primarily due to new standard annuity business written.

Distribution

The Company s Life business is produced both through brokers and through direct relationships with insurance companies. For the year ended December 31, 2011, one cedant accounted for 13% of the Life segment s total gross premiums written and one broker, the Aon Group (including the Benfield Group), accounted for 16% of the Life segment s total gross premiums written. No other cedant or broker contributed more than 10% of the Life segment s total gross premiums written.

Competition

The Company s competition differs by location but generally includes multi-national reinsurers and local reinsurers or state-owned insurers in the U.K., Ireland and Continental Europe.

Reserves

General

Loss reserves represent estimates of amounts an insurer or reinsurer ultimately expects to pay in the future on claims incurred at a given time, based on facts and circumstances known at the time that the loss reserves are established. It is possible that the total future payments may exceed, or be less than, such estimates. The estimates are not precise in that, among other things, they are based on predictions of future developments and estimates of future trends in claim severity, frequency and other variable factors such as inflation. During the loss settlement period, it often becomes necessary to refine and adjust the estimates of liability on a claim either upward or downward. Despite such adjustments, the ultimate future liability may exceed or be less than the revised estimates.

8

As part of the reserving process, insurers and reinsurers review historical data and anticipate the impact of various factors such as legislative enactments and judicial decisions that may affect potential losses from casualty claims, changes in social and political attitudes that may increase exposure to losses, mortality and morbidity trends and trends in general economic conditions. This process assumes that past experience, adjusted for the effects of current developments, is an appropriate basis for anticipating future events.

See Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a discussion of the Company s reserving process.

Non-life Reserves

Net liability at end of year

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded gross Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses of \$11,273 million and \$10,667 million, respectively, and net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses of \$10,920 million and \$10,318 million, respectively.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Net liability at beginning of year	\$ 10,318	\$ 10,475	\$ 7,385
Net liability acquired related to Paris Re			3,176
Net incurred losses related to:			
Current year	4,252	3,138	2,341
Prior years	(530)	(478)	(486)
	3,722	2,660	1,855
Change in Paris Re Reserve Agreement	(61)	(67)	(32)
Net paid losses	(2,991)	(2,579)	(2,044)
Effects of foreign exchange rate changes	(68)	(171)	135

The increase in net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses from \$10,318 million at December 31, 2010 to \$10,920 million at December 31, 2011 primarily reflects an increase in current year net incurred losses, which is partially offset by an increase in net paid losses. Both the increase in the current year net incurred losses and net paid losses during the year ended December 31, 2011 related to the impact of the catastrophic events during 2011.

\$10,920

\$ 10.318

\$ 10,475

The following table summarizes the net incurred losses for the year ended December 31, 2011 relating to the current and prior accident years by sub-segment for the Company s Non-life operations (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	North	ı America	(No	lobal n-U.S.) P&C	(N	Global on-U.S.) oecialty	Cat	astrophe	N	Total Ion-life gment ⁽¹⁾
Net incurred losses related to:										
Current year	\$	930	\$	683	\$	1,079	\$	1,555	\$	4,247
Net prior years favorable reserve development		(189)		(116)		(129)		(96)		(530)
Total net incurred losses	\$	741	\$	567	\$	950	\$	1,459	\$	3,717

⁽¹⁾ In addition to the current year net incurred losses in the Non-life segment of \$4,247 million were current year net incurred losses related to the Corporate and Other segment, resulting in total net incurred losses of \$3,722 million.

9

The net favorable development on prior accident years of \$530 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 primarily resulted from favorable loss emergence, as losses reported by cedants were lower than expected. The most significant drivers of the Non-life net favorable prior year reserve development during the year ended December 31, 2011 were the casualty line of business in the Company s North America sub-segment and the Catastrophe sub-segment. See Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for a more detailed discussion of net prior year reserve development by sub-segment and Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a discussion of the net prior year reserve development by reserving lines for the Company s Non-life operations.

Reserve Agreement

On December 21, 2006, Colisée Re (formerly known as AXA RE), a subsidiary of AXA SA (AXA) transferred substantially all of its assets and liabilities, other than specified reinsurance and retrocession agreements and certain other excluded assets and liabilities, to PARIS RE Holdings SA s French operating subsidiary Paris Re France (AXA Transfer)(Paris Re France). The AXA Transfer was immediately followed by the acquisition by Paris Re of all the outstanding capital stock of Paris Re France (AXA Acquisition). In connection with the AXA Acquisition, AXA, Colisée Re and Paris Re entered into various agreements (2006 Acquisition Agreements).

On the closing of the AXA Acquisition, AXA, Colisée Re and Paris Re France entered into a reserve agreement (Reserve Agreement). The Reserve Agreement provides that AXA and Colisée Re shall guarantee reserves in respect of Paris Re France and subsidiaries acquired in the AXA Acquisition. The Reserve Agreement covers losses incurred prior to December 31, 2005, including any adverse development in respect thereof, by the subsidiaries of Colisée Re transferred to Paris Re France as part of the 2006 Acquisition Agreements, in respect of reinsurance policies issued or renewed, and in respect of which premiums were earned, on or prior to December 31, 2005 (but excluding any amendments thereto effected after the closing of the 2006 Acquisition Agreements).

Pursuant to the Reserve Agreement, AXA has agreed to cause AXA Liabilities Managers, an affiliate of Colisée Re (AXA LM), to provide Paris Re France with periodic reports setting forth the amount of losses incurred in respect of the business guaranteed by AXA. The reserve guarantee provided by AXA and Colisée Re is conditioned upon, among other things, the guaranteed business, including all related ceded reinsurance, being managed by AXA LM. The Reserve Agreement further contemplates that Colisée Re or Paris Re France, as the case may be, shall pay to the other party amounts equal to any deficiency or surplus in the transferred reserves with respect to losses incurred, such losses being net of any recovery by Colisée Re including through retrocessional protection, salvage or subrogation.

The rights and obligations of AXA LM with respect to the management of this business are set forth in a run off services and management agreement among AXA LM, Colisée Re and Paris Re France (Run Off Services and Management Agreement). Under the Run Off Services and Management Agreement, Paris Re has agreed that AXA LM will manage claims arising from all reinsurance and retrocession contracts subject to the Reserve Agreement, either directly or, for contracts that were issued by certain Colisée Re entities identified in the agreement, by delegation to certain other specified entities, including Paris Re France. This includes contract administration, the administration of ceded reinsurance, claims handling, settlements and business commutations. Although Paris Re France has certain consultation rights in connection with the management of the run-off of the contracts subject to the Reserve Agreement, AXA LM does not need to obtain Paris Re France s prior consent in connection with claims handling and settlements, and no consent is required for business commutations if the amount of case reserves related to commuted contracts does not exceed 100 million in any twelve month period.

On October 1, 2010, PartnerRe Europe and Paris Re France effected a cross border merger whereby all the assets and liabilities of Paris Re France were transferred to PartnerRe Europe, including the agreements between Paris Re France and Colisée Re.

10

Changes in Non-life Reserves

The below table shows the gross, retroceded and net reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses for the Company s Non-life business, and the portion of the gross, retroceded and net reserves that relates to the reserves subject to the Reserve Agreement (Guaranteed Reserves), as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in thousands of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010
Gross reserves	\$ 11,273,091	\$ 10,666,604
Less: Guaranteed Reserves	1,038,800	1,287,576
Gross reserves, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	10,234,291	9,379,028
Retroceded reserves	353,105	348,747
Less: Guaranteed Reserves	27,264	48,099
Retroceded reserves, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	325,841	300,648
Net reserves	\$ 10,919,986	\$ 10,317,857
Net reserves, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	\$ 9,908,450	\$ 9,078,380

The below table is a reconciliation of the net paid losses related to prior years and the net paid losses related to prior years, excluding the paid losses for the Guaranteed Reserves, for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in thousands of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010
Net paid losses related to prior years	\$ 2,060,152	\$ 2,267,765
Less: net paid losses on Guaranteed Reserves	136,885	148,191
Net paid losses related to prior years, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	\$ 1,923,267	\$ 2,119,574

The Guaranteed Reserves have been excluded from the following tables that analyze the development of the Company s net reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses for the Company s Non-life business given the Reserve Agreement covers any adverse or favorable development related to the reserves acquired by Paris Re in the AXA Acquisition, and therefore, they have no impact on the development of the Company s gross and net reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses.

The following table shows the development of net reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses for the Company s Non-life business, excluding Guaranteed Reserves. The table begins by showing the initial reported year-end gross and net reserves, including incurred but not reported (IBNR) reserves, recorded at the balance sheet date for each of the ten years presented.

The next section of the table shows the re-estimated amount of the initial reported net reserves, excluding Guaranteed Reserves, for up to ten subsequent years, based on experience at the end of each subsequent year. The re-estimated net liabilities reflect additional information, received from cedants or obtained through reviews of industry trends, regarding claims incurred prior to the end of the preceding financial year. A redundancy (or deficiency) arises when the re-estimation of reserves is less (or greater) than its estimation at the preceding year-end. The cumulative redundancies (or deficiencies) reflect cumulative differences between the initial reported net reserves and the currently re-estimated net reserves. Annual changes in the estimates are reflected in the income statement for each year as the liabilities are re-estimated. Reserves denominated in foreign currencies are revalued at each year-end s foreign exchange rates.

The lower section of the table shows the portion of the initial year-end net reserves, excluding Guaranteed Reserves, that were paid (claims paid) as of the end of subsequent years. This section of the table provides an indication of the portion of the re-estimated net liability that is settled and is unlikely to develop in the future. Claims paid are converted to U.S. dollars at the average foreign exchange rates during the year of payment and are not revalued at the current year foreign exchange rates. Because claims paid in prior years are not revalued at the current year s foreign exchange rates, the difference between the cumulative claims paid at the end of any given year and the immediately previous year represents the claims paid during the year.

11

Development of Loss and Loss Expense Reserves (Excluding Guaranteed Reserves subject to the Reserve Agreement)

(in thousands of U.S. dollars)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (1)	2010	2011
Gross liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses, excluding Guaranteed Reserves Retroceded liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses, excluding	\$ 3,005,628	\$ 3,658,416	\$ 4,755,059	\$ 5,766,629	\$ 6,737,661	\$ 6,870,785	\$ 7,231,436	\$ 7,510,666	\$ 9,248,529	\$ 9,379,028	\$ 10,234,291
Guaranteed Reserves	214,891	217,777	175,685	153,018	185,280	138,585	132,479	125,215	270,938	300,648	325,841
Net liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses, excluding Guaranteed											
Reserves Net liability re-estimated, excluding	\$ 2,790,737	\$ 3,440,639	\$ 4,579,374	\$ 5,613,611	\$ 6,552,381	\$ 6,732,200	\$ 7,098,957	\$ 7,385,451	\$ 8,977,591	\$ 9,078,380	\$ 9,908,450
Guaranteed Reserves at:											
One year later	3,035,309	3,806,231	4,688,964	5,006,767	6,602,832	6,715,107	6,343,714	7,076,796	8,354,221	8,414,074	
Two years later	3,310,898	3,975,926	4,301,161	5,044,922	6,618,112	6,165,297	6,009,194	6,686,926	7,635,157		
Three years									.,,		
later Four years	3,456,250	3,781,574	4,373,992	5,092,289	6,168,445	5,897,044	5,674,509	6,351,663			
later	3,326,527	3,894,500	4,494,182	4,845,644	6,002,031	5,645,132	5,409,460				
Five years	2 422 997	4.010.912	4 215 702	1721 056	5 902 700	5 126 252					
later Six years later	3,433,887 3,528,665	4,019,813 3,918,380	4,315,702 4,264,865	4,731,856 4,595,232	5,802,799 5,627,952	5,436,353					
Seven years											
later Eight years	3,445,844	3,894,155	4,171,108	4,467,678							
later	3,446,683	3,822,959	4,091,315								
Nine years	2 204 026	2 762 561									
later Ten years later	3,394,936 3,347,058	3,762,561									
Cumulative	-,,,										
net											
(deficiency) redundancy	\$ (556,321)	\$ (321,922)	\$ 488,059	\$ 1,145,933	\$ 924,429	\$ 1,295,847	\$ 1,689,497	\$ 1,033,788	\$ 1,342,434	\$ 664,306	
Cumulative amount of net liability paid through:			,	, , , , , , ,	, ,	, , , , ,	, , , , ,	, , , , ,		,	
One year later	\$ 923,165	\$ 1,126,882	\$ 1,120,756	\$ 1,250,534	\$ 1,718,996	\$ 1,473,964	\$ 1,340,788	\$ 1,716,798	\$ 2,119,574	\$ 1,923,267	
Two years later	1,391,301	1,713,953	1,573,312	1,821,773	2,482,695	2,116,025	1,971,376	2,448,950	2,974,304		

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Three years								
later	1,740,277	1,993,947	1,948,203	2,207,692	2,948,837	2,581,022	2,470,068	2,991,497
Four years								
later	1,924,833	2,248,980	2,219,506	2,511,446	3,273,808	2,932,356	2,818,018	
Five years								
later	2,086,252	2,433,223	2,439,361	2,721,266	3,534,003	3,183,573		
Six years later	2,215,412	2,580,225	2,589,798	2,898,779	3,713,402			
Seven years								
later	2,314,918	2,694,079	2,717,665	3,043,151				
Eight years								
later	2,397,806	2,779,632	2,820,421					
Nine years								
later	2,463,518	2,860,940						
Ten vears later	2,526,523							

⁽¹⁾ Paris Re s liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses is included as of December 31, 2009 for the first time. For years prior to 2009, this table excludes the reserves of the Paris Re companies acquired. Accordingly, the reserve development (net liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses at the end of the year, as originally estimated, less net liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses re-estimated as of subsequent years) for years prior to 2009 relates only to losses recorded by PartnerRe and subsidiaries not acquired in the Paris Re acquisition.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the Company s re-estimated gross year-end reserves with the re-estimated net year-end reserves as of December 31, 2011 provided above (in thousands of U.S. dollars):

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Reconciliation of gross reserves:										
Gross liability re-estimated, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	\$ 3,576,494	\$ 3,972,526	\$ 4,230,780	\$ 4,572,597	\$ 5,799,072	\$ 5,539,485	\$ 5,497,851	\$ 6,460,164	\$ 7,858,775	\$ 8,688,790
Re-estimated retroceded liability, excluding Guaranteed	ψ 3,3 /O, 1 7,1	ψ 3,712,320	Ψ 4,230,760	Ψ 4,312,371	ψ 3,177,012	ψ 3,337,463	Ψ 5, 77, 651	ψ 0,400,104	Ψ 1,030,113	\$ 6,006,770
Net liability re-estimated, excluding Guaranteed	229,436	209,965	139,465	104,919	171,120	103,132	88,391	108,501	223,618	274,716
Reserves	\$ 3,347,058	\$ 3,762,561	\$ 4,091,315	\$ 4,467,678	\$ 5,627,952	\$ 5,436,353	\$ 5,409,460	\$ 6,351,663	\$ 7,635,157	\$ 8,414,074

Cumulative gross (deficiency)

redundancy \$ (570,866) \$ (314,110) \$ 524,279 \$ 1,194,032 \$ 938,589 \$ 1,331,300 \$ 1,733,585 \$ 1,050,502 \$ 1,389,754 \$ 690,238

The Company s reserve development is composed of the change in ultimate losses from what the Company originally estimated as well as the impact of the foreign exchange revaluation on reserves. The Company conducts its reinsurance operations in a variety of non-U.S. currencies and records its net reserves in the currency of the treaty, with the principal exposures being the euro, Canadian dollar, British pound, New Zealand dollar, Japanese Yen and Australian dollar. The impact of reporting the Company s net reserves based on the foreign exchange rates at the balance sheet date can be a significant component of the cumulative (deficiency) redundancy in net reserves and in some years can be the principal component. The following table provides the amount of foreign exchange included in the cumulative net (deficiency) redundancy reported above as well as the net (deficiency) redundancy excluding the impact of foreign exchange movements on net reserves (in thousands of U.S. dollars):

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cumulative net (deficiency) redundancy Less: Cumulative net (deficiency) redundancy due to foreign exchange	\$ (556,321) (467,797)	\$ (321,922) (425,275)	\$ 488,059 (189,424)	\$ 1,145,933 136,344	\$ 924,429 (395,835)	\$ 1,295,847 (157,467)	\$ 1,689,497 328,564	\$ 1,033,788 (51,288)	\$ 1,342,434 121,138	\$ 664,306 133,849
Cumulative net (deficiency) redundancy excluding the impact of foreign exchange	\$ (88,524)	\$ 103,353	\$ 677,483	\$ 1,009,589	\$ 1,320,264	\$ 1,453,314	\$ 1,360,933	\$ 1,085,076	\$ 1,221,296	\$ 530,457

Movements in foreign exchange rates between accounting periods have typically resulted in significant variations in the loss reserves of the Company as the U.S. dollar, the Company s reporting currency, appreciated/depreciated against multiple currencies. The Company, however, generally holds investments in the same currencies as its net reserves, or enters into derivative foreign exchange contracts, with the intent of matching the foreign exchange movements on its assets and liabilities. See Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk contained in Item 7A of Part II of this report for a more detailed discussion of the foreign currency risk of the Company s assets and liabilities.

The Company believes that in order to enhance the understanding of its reserve development, it is useful for investors to evaluate the Company s reserve development excluding the impact of foreign exchange. The following table shows the development of initial net reserves converted at each year s average foreign exchange rates (in thousands of U.S. dollars). Using the historical average foreign exchange rates for the development lines of the table has the effect of linking each year s development with that year s income statement. This table should not be considered as a substitute for the table provided above as it does not reflect a significant portion of the initial net reserve development that is due to foreign exchange revaluation.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Net liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses, excluding Guaranteed Reserves	\$ 2,790,737	\$ 3,440,639	\$ 4,579,374	\$ 5,613,611	\$ 6,552,381	\$ 6,732,200	\$ 7,098,957	\$ 7,385,451	\$ 8,977,591	\$ 9,078,380
Net liability re-estimated, excluding Guaranteed Reserves at:										, ,
One year later	2,846,855	3,496,102	4,440,338	5,382,101	6,300,633	6,318,157	6,681,021	6,899,642	8,499,708	8,547,923
Two years later	2,921,908	3,513,647	4,298,493	5,232,707	6,023,025	6,014,782	6,222,150	6,597,688	7,756,295	
Three years later	2,956,308	3,483,720	4,223,937	5,076,765	5,774,643	5,640,480	5,961,748	6,300,375		
Four years later	2,964,307	3,491,033	4,178,131	4,972,632	5,521,034	5,451,479	5,738,024			
Five years later	2,982,347	3,498,703	4,118,436	4,794,445	5,376,045	5,278,886				
Six years later	2,979,426	3,480,094	4,012,792	4,704,184	5,232,117					
Seven years later	2,963,708	3,418,353	3,958,493	4,604,022						
Eight years later	2,935,299	3,379,382	3,901,891							
Nine years later	2,912,868	3,337,286								
Ten years later	2,879,261									
Cumulative net (deficiency) redundancy	\$ (88,524)	\$ 103,353	\$ 677,483	\$ 1,009,589	\$ 1,320,264	\$ 1,453,314	\$ 1,360,933	\$ 1,085,076	\$ 1,221,296	\$ 530,457
Other P&C Expe	osures		,							,

The Company s reserve for unpaid losses and loss expenses as of December 31, 2011 includes reserves that are difficult to estimate using traditional reserving methodologies. See Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits in Item 7 of Part II of this report for additional information and discussion of the uncertainties and complexities related to the Japan earthquake and resulting tsunami (Japan Earthquake) and the New Zealand earthquakes that occurred in February and June 2011 (February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes), the other catastrophic events that occurred in 2011, and the Company s exposure to claims arising from asbestos and environmental exposures.

There can be no assurance that the reserves established by the Company will not be adversely affected by development of other latent exposures, and further, there can be no assurance that the reserves established by the Company will be adequate. However, they represent Management s best estimate for ultimate losses based on available information at this time.

Life Reserves

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded gross policy benefits for life and annuity contracts of \$1,646 million and \$1,750 million, respectively, and net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts of \$1,636 million and \$1,736 million, respectively.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Net liability at beginning of year	\$ 1,736	\$ 1,595	\$ 1,408
Net incurred losses related to:			
Current year	651	612	455
Prior years	(1)	12	(15)
	650	624	440
Net policy benefits restructured by a cedant	(131)		
Net paid losses	(588)	(420)	(323)
Effects of foreign exchange rate changes	(31)	(63)	70
Net liability at end of year	\$ 1,636	\$ 1,736	\$ 1,595

The decrease in net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts from \$1,736 million at December 31, 2010 to \$1,636 million at December 31, 2011 is primarily due to the restructuring of a longevity treaty from a funds held basis to a swap basis during 2011 and net paid losses, which were partially offset by incurred losses.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company experienced net favorable prior year loss development related to its mortality book of \$1 million. The modest net favorable prior year loss development of \$1 million in 2011 was the net result of favorable prior year loss development of \$6 million on certain mortality treaties and \$5 million related to the GMDB business, which were almost entirely offset by adverse prior year loss development related to disability riders on certain short-term non-proportional treaties in the mortality line following the receipt of updated information from cedants. There was no prior year loss development in 2011 related to the Company s longevity book.

The following table shows the Company s gross policy benefits for life and annuity contracts by line of business and total ceded and net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts at December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Reserving lines Mortality ⁽¹⁾ Longevity	2011 \$ 1,123 523	2010 \$ 1,041 709
Total gross policy benefits for life and annuity contracts Ceded policy benefits for life and annuity contracts	1,646 (10)	1,750 (14)
Total net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts	\$ 1,636	\$ 1,736

(1) Reserves related to the health line are included within the mortality line.

Investments and Investments underlying the Funds Held Directly Managed Account

The Company has developed specific investment objectives and guidelines for the management of its investment portfolio and the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account (see below for details). These objectives and guidelines stress diversification of risk, matching of the underlying liability payments, low credit risk and stability of portfolio income. Despite the prudent focus of these objectives and guidelines, the Company s investments are subject to general market risk, as well as to risks inherent in particular securities.

The Company s investment strategy is largely consistent with previous years. To ensure that the Company will have sufficient assets to pay its clients—claims, the Company s investment philosophy distinguishes between those assets, including the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, that are matched against existing liabilities (liability funds) and those that represent shareholders—equity (capital funds). Liability

funds are invested in high quality fixed income securities and cash and cash equivalents. Capital funds are available for investing in a broadly diversified portfolio, which includes investments in preferred and common stocks, private bond and equity investments, investment grade and below investment grade securities and other asset classes that offer potentially higher returns.

Investments

The Company s investment portfolio, excluding the funds held directly managed account which is discussed below, includes investments classified as trading securities and certain other invested assets. The below table summarizes the carrying values of the Company s investments at December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in millions of U.S. dollars and each category as a percentage of the total investments):

	2011		2010	
Fixed maturities				
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$ 1,116	7%	\$ 906	7%
U.S. states, territories and municipalities	124	1	67	
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related	2,964	19	2,819	20
Corporate	5,747	38	6,144	43
Asset-backed securities	634	4	557	4
Residential mortgage-backed securities	3,283	22	2,306	16
Other mortgage-backed securities	74		26	
Total fixed maturities	\$ 13,942	91%	\$ 12,825	90%
Short-term investments	42		49	
Equities	945	6	1,072	8
Other invested assets	358	3	352	2
Total investments	\$ 15,287	100%	\$ 14,298	100%

(1) In addition to the total investments shown in the above table of \$15.3 billion and \$14.3 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, the Company held cash and cash equivalents of \$1.3 billion and \$2.1 billion, respectively.

The overall average credit rating of the portfolio at December 31, 2011 was AA, and 94% of the fixed maturities and short-term investments were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s. For further discussion of the composition of the investment portfolio, see Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Investments in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

The investment portfolio is divided and managed by strategy and legal entity. Each segregated portfolio is managed against a specific benchmark to properly control the risk of each portfolio as well as the aggregate risks of the combined portfolio. The performance of each portfolio and the aggregate investment portfolio is measured against several benchmarks to ensure that they have the appropriate risk and return characteristics.

In order to manage the risks of the investment portfolio, several controls are in place. First, the overall duration (interest rate risk) of the portfolio is managed relative to the duration of the net reinsurance liabilities, defined as reinsurance liabilities net of all reinsurance assets, so that the economic value of changes in interest rates have offsetting effects on the Company s assets and liabilities. Second, to ensure diversification and avoid aggregation of risks, limits on assets types, economic sector exposure, industry exposure and individual security exposure are placed on the investment portfolio. These exposures are monitored on an ongoing basis and reported at least quarterly to the Risk and Finance Committee of the Board of Directors (Board). See Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report for a discussion of the Company s interest rate, equity and foreign currency management strategies.

Investments underlying the Funds Held Directly Managed Account

Following the AXA Acquisition, Paris Re France and certain subsidiaries entered into an Issuance Agreement with Colisée Re to enable Colisée Re to write business on behalf of Paris Re France between January 1, 2006 and September 30, 2007. In addition, effective January 1, 2006, Paris Re France and Colisée Re entered into 100% quota share retrocession agreements to transfer the benefits and risks of Colisée Re s reinsurance agreements to Paris Re and provide for the payment of premiums to Paris Re France in consideration for reinsuring the covered liabilities (the Quota Share Retrocession Agreement). The Quota Share Retrocession Agreement provides that these premiums will be on a funds withheld basis. Paris Re France will receive any surplus, and be responsible for any deficits remaining with respect to the funds held directly managed account, after all liabilities have been discharged and payments pursuant to the Reserve Agreement have been settled. In addition, realized and unrealized investment gains and losses and net investment income related to the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account inure to the benefit of Paris Re France. The investments underlying the funds held directly managed account were predominantly maintained by Colisée Re in a segregated investment portfolio and managed by the Company s investment portfolio.

The table below summarizes the carrying value of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in millions of U.S. dollars and each category as a percentage of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account):

	2011		2010	1
Fixed maturities				
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$ 269	26%	\$ 288	18%
U.S. states, territories and municipalities				
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related	275	26	385	25
Corporate	480	45	799	52
Mortgage/asset-backed securities			12	1
Total fixed maturities	\$ 1,024	97	\$ 1,484	96
Short-term investments	18	2	38	3
Other invested assets	16	1	21	1
Total investments	\$ 1,058	100%	\$ 1,543	100%

⁽¹⁾ In addition to the investments underlying the funds held—directly managed account held at fair value of \$1,058 million at December 31, 2011, the funds held—directly managed account also included cash and cash equivalents of \$176 million, accrued investment income of \$14 million and other assets and liabilities held by Colisée Re related to the underlying business of \$20 million.

The overall average credit rating of the portfolio at December 31, 2011 was AA, and all of the fixed maturities and short-term investments were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s.

On February 1, 2011, PartnerRe Europe (formerly Paris Re France prior to its cross border merger with PartnerRe Europe), entered into an Endorsement to Quota Share Retrocession Agreement (the Endorsement) with Colisée Re. The Endorsement amended certain terms of the Quota Share Retrocession Agreement and released certain assets forming part of the funds held directly managed account to PartnerRe Europe.

For further discussion of the composition of the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account, see Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Funds Held Directly Managed in Item 7 of Part II of this report. The credit risk of Colisée Re in the event of its insolvency or its failure to honor the value of the funds held balances for any other reason is discussed in Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk Counterparty Credit Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report.

Risk Management

In the reinsurance industry, the core of the business model is the assumption and management of risk. A key challenge is to create economic value through the intelligent and optimal assumption and management of reinsurance and capital markets and investment risks, but also to limit or mitigate those risks that can destroy tangible as well as intangible value, those risks for which the organization is not sufficiently compensated and those risks that could threaten the ability of the Company to achieve its objectives. Management believes that every organization faces numerous risks that could threaten the successful achievement of a company s goals and objectives. These include choice of strategy and markets, economic and business cycles, competition, changes in regulation, data quality and security, fraud, business interruption and management continuity; all factors which can be viewed as either strategic or operational risks that are common to any industry. See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report. In addition to these risks, the Company assumes risks and its results are primarily determined by how well the Company understands, prices and manages assumed risk. While many companies start with a return goal and then attempt to shed risks that may derail that goal, the Company starts with a capital-based risk appetite and then looks for risks that meet its return targets within that framework. Management believes that this construct allows the Company to balance the cedants need for certainty of claims payment with the shareholders need for an adequate return on their capital.

All business decisions entail a risk/return trade-off. In the context of assumed business risks, this requires an accurate evaluation of risks to be assumed, and a determination of the appropriate economic returns required as fair compensation for such risks. For other than voluntarily assumed business risks, the decision relates to comparing the probability and potential severity of a risk event against the costs of risk mitigation strategies. In many cases, the potential impact of a risk event is so severe as to warrant significant, and potentially expensive, risk mitigation strategies. In other cases, the probability and potential severity of a risk does not warrant extensive risk mitigation.

The Company has a clearly defined governance structure for risk management. Executive Management and the Board are responsible for setting the vision and goals including risk appetite and return expectations. Strategy and principles are recommended by Executive Management and approved by the Board. Key policies and Group policies are established by the Chief Executive Officer and policies at the next level down are established by Business Unit and functional management. Risk management policies and processes are coordinated by Group Risk Management and audited by Internal Audit. The results of audits are monitored by the Audit Committee of the Board. The Company utilizes a multi-level risk management structure, whereby critical exposure limits, return requirement guidelines, capital at risk and key policies are established by the Executive Management and Board, but day-to-day execution of risk assumption activities and related risk mitigation strategies are delegated to the Business Units. Reporting on risk management activities is integrated within the Company s annual planning process, quarterly operations reports, periodic reports on exposures and large losses, and presentations to the Executive Management and Board. Individual Business Units employ, and are responsible for reporting on, operating risk management procedures and controls, while Internal Audit periodically tests these controls to ensure ongoing compliance.

Strategic Risks

Strategic risks are managed by Executive Management and include the direction and governance of the Company, as well as its response to key external factors faced by the reinsurance industry.

The Company manages assumed risk at a strategic level through diversification, risk appetite, and limits. For each key risk, the Board approves a risk appetite that the Company defines as the percentage of economic capital the Company is willing to expose to economic loss with a modeled probability of occurring once every 15 years and once every 75 years. The Company manages its exposure to key risks such that the modeled economic loss at a 1 in 15 year and a 1 in 75 year return period are less than the economic capital the Company is willing to expose to the key risks at those return periods.

18

Table of Contents

The Company s risk limits are stated as explicit numerical expressions, such as total aggregate limits in a catastrophe zone, earned premium for casualty business, the market value of equity and equity-like securities and an extreme scenario for longevity business. Executive and Business Unit Management set additional specific and aggregate risk limits within the limits approved by the Risk and Finance Committee. The actual level of risk is dependent on current market conditions and the need for balance in the Company s portfolio of risks. On a quarterly basis, Management reviews and reports to the Board the actual utilization of limits against approved limits and modeled economic loss against approved appetite for the key risks.

Individual Business Units manage assumed risks, subject to the appetite and principles approved by the Board, limits approved by the Risk and Finance Committee of the Board, and policies established by Executive and Business Unit Management. At an operational level, Business Units manage assumed risk through risk mitigation strategies including strong processes, technical risk assessment and collaboration among different groups of professionals who each contribute a particular area of expertise.

Operational and financial risks are managed by designated functions within the organization. They include failures or weaknesses in financial reporting and controls, regulatory non-compliance, poor cash management, fraud, breach of information technology security and reliance on third party vendors. The Company seeks to minimize these risks through robust processes and controls. Controls and monitoring processes throughout the organization seek to ensure that the Executive Management and the Board have a comprehensive view of the Company s risks and related mitigation strategies at all times.

The major risks to the Company s balance sheet are typically due to events that Management refers to as shock losses. The Company defines a shock loss as an event that has the potential to materially impact economic value. The Company defines its economic value as the difference between the net present value of tangible assets and the net present value of liabilities, using appropriate risk discount rates, plus the unrecognized value of the Life portfolio. For traded assets, the calculated net present values are equivalent to market values.

There are four areas of risk that the Company has currently identified as having the greatest potential for shock losses: catastrophe risk, reserving risk for casualty and other long-tail lines, equity and equity-like investment risk and longevity risk. The Company manages the risk of shock losses by setting risk appetite and limits, as described above and below, for each type of shock loss. The Company establishes limits to manage the maximum foreseeable loss from any one event and considers the possibility that several shock losses could occur at one time, for example a major catastrophe event accompanied by a collapse in the equity markets. Management believes that the limits that it has placed on shock losses will allow the Company to continue writing business should such an event occur.

Other risks such as interest rate risk and credit spread risk have the ability to impact results substantially and may result in volatility in results from period to period. However, Management believes that by themselves, interest rate risk and credit spread risk are unlikely to represent a material threat to the Company s long-term economic value. See Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report for additional discussion of interest rate risk, credit spread risk, foreign currency risk, counterparty credit risk and equity price risk.

Catastrophe Risk

The Company defines this risk as the risk that the aggregate losses from natural perils materially exceed the net premiums that are received to cover such risks. The Company considers both the loss of capital due to a single large event and the loss of capital that would occur from multiple (but potentially smaller) events in any year.

Catastrophe risk is managed through the real-time allocation of catastrophe exposure capacity in each exposure zone to different Business Units, regular catastrophe modeling and a combination of quantitative and qualitative analysis. A zone is a geographic area in which the insurance risks are considered to be correlated to a single catastrophic event. Not all zones have the same limit and zones are broadly defined so that it would be

19

highly unlikely for any single event to substantially erode the aggregate exposure limits from more than one zone. Even extremely high severity/low likelihood events will only partially exhaust the limits in any zone, as they are likely to only affect a part of the area covered by a wide zone.

The Company imposes a limit to catastrophe risk from any single loss through exposure limit caps in each zone and to each peril. Limits from catastrophe exposed business include limits on both reinsurance treaties and insurance-linked securities. The Company also manages its catastrophe exposures such that the chance of an economic loss to the Company from all catastrophe losses in aggregate in any one year exceeding \$1.4 billion has a modeled probability of occurring less than once every 75 years. To measure this probability, the Company uses proprietary and vendor models that take into account the likely frequency and severity of catastrophic events with a forward looking approach using exposure. This quantitative analysis is supplemented with the professional judgment of experienced underwriters. At December 31, 2011, the modeled economic loss to the Company from a 1 in 75 year catastrophic loss was \$1.2 billion, in aggregate, for all zones.

The Company is currently in the process of updating its probable maximum loss (PML) modeling, including incorporating January 1, 2012 renewals, and expects to release updated PML information for certain selected catastrophe exposed zones in due course.

Casualty Reserving Risk

The Company defines this risk as the risk that the estimates of ultimate losses that underlie its booked reserves for casualty and other long-tail lines will prove to be too low, leading to substantial reserve strengthening. One of the greatest risks in long-tail lines of business, and particularly in U.S. casualty, is that the loss trends are higher than the assumptions underlying the Company's ultimate loss estimates, resulting in ultimate losses that exceed recorded loss reserves. When loss trends prove to be higher than those underlying the reserving assumptions, the risk is great because of a stacking up effect: for long-tail lines, the Company carries reserves to cover claims arising from several years of underwriting activity and these reserves are likely to be adversely affected by unfavorable loss trends. The effect is likely to be more pronounced for recent underwriting years because, with the passage of time, actual loss emergence and data provide greater confidence around the adequacy of ultimate liability estimates for older underwriting years. Management believes that the volume of long-tail business most exposed to these reserving uncertainties should be limited.

The Company s limit for casualty reserving risk represents the total earned premiums for casualty and other long-tail lines for the four most recent underwriting periods. The Company also manages its casualty and other long-tail lines exposure such that the chance of an economic loss to the Company from prior years deterioration in casualty and other long-tail reserves exceeding \$0.7 billion has a modeled probability of occurring less than once every 15 years. To measure this probability, the Company uses proprietary models that contemplate the range of possible reserve outcomes given historic volatility of the Company s and industry reserve development data and the possible impacts upon the range of reserves of risk factors inherent in the current booked reserves. This quantitative analysis is supplemented with the professional judgment of experienced actuaries. At December 31, 2011, the modeled economic loss to the Company from a 1 in 15 year casualty and other long-tail lines prior years reserve development was \$0.4 billion.

The Company manages and mitigates the reserving risk for long-tail lines in a variety of ways. Underwriters and pricing actuaries follow a disciplined underwriting process that utilizes all available data and information, including industry trends, and the Company establishes prudent reserving policies for determining carried reserves. These policies are systematic and Management endeavors to apply them consistently over time. See Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits below.

Equity Investment Risk

The Company defines this risk as the risk of a substantial decline in the value of its equity and equity-like securities. The Company defines equity and equity-like securities as the market value of all assets that are not investment grade fixed income.

20

The Company limits the amount of equity and equity-like securities to a percentage of economic capital. The Company also manages its exposures to equity and equity-like securities such that the chance of an economic loss to the Company of a severe decline in value of equity and equity-like securities exceeding \$1.1 billion has a modeled probability of occurring less than once every 75 years. To measure this probability, the Company uses proprietary and vendor models that contemplate the range of historic and possible future returns. This quantitative analysis is supplemented with the professional judgment of experienced investment professionals and actuaries. At December 31, 2011, the modeled economic loss to the Company from a 1 in 75 year equity and equity-like value decline was \$0.4 billion.

Assuming equity risk (and equity-like risks such as those from high yield bonds and convertible securities) within that part of the investment portfolio that is not required to support the Company's reinsurance liabilities provides valuable diversification from other risk classes, along with the potential for higher returns. However, an overweight position could lead to a large loss of capital and impair the balance sheet in the case of a market crash. The Company sets strict limits on investments in any one name and any one industry, which creates a diversified portfolio and allows Management to focus on the systemic effects of equity risks. Systemic risk is managed by asset allocation, subject to strict caps on other than investment grade bonds as a percentage of capital. The Company's fully integrated information system provides real-time data on the investment portfolios, allowing for continuous monitoring and decision support. Each portfolio is managed against a pre-determined benchmark to enable alignment with appropriate risk parameters and achievement of desired returns. See Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk Equity Price Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report.

Longevity Risk

The Company considers longevity exposure to have a material accumulation potential and has established a limit to manage the risk of loss associated with this exposure. The Company defines longevity risk as the potential for increased actual and future expected annuity payments resulting from annuitants living longer than expected, or the expectation that annuitants will live longer in the future. Assuming longevity risk, through reinsurance or capital markets transactions, is part of the Company s strategy of building a diversified portfolio of risks. While longevity risk is highly diversifying in relation to other risks in the Company s portfolio (e.g. mortality products), longevity risk itself is a systemic risk with little opportunity to diversify within the risk class. Longevity risk accumulates across cedants, geographies, and over time because mortality trends can impact diverse populations in the same manner. Longevity risk can manifest slowly over time as experience proves annuitants are living longer than original expectations, or abruptly as in the case of a miracle drug that increases the life expectancy of all annuitants simultaneously.

In order to determine a longevity limit metric for the purposes of risk accumulation, the Company examined extreme scenarios and measured its exposure to loss under those scenarios. Examples of these scenarios included, but were not limited to, immediate elimination of major causes of death and an extreme improvement scenario equivalent to the adverse result of every annuitant s life expectancy increasing to approximately 100 years. The Company did not rely upon modeled losses to determine the limit metric, but did benchmark the scenario results against existing tests, scenarios and models. For risk accumulation purposes, the Company selected the most extreme scenario and added an additional margin for potential deviation.

The Company selected a longevity limit of \$2 billion. To measure utilization of the longevity limit (accumulation of longevity exposure), the Company accumulates the net present value of adverse loss resulting from the application of the selected extreme scenario and additional margin applied to every in-force longevity treaty and the notional value of any longevity insurance-linked security.

21

The limits and actual deployed exposures of the Company for its four major risks at December 31, 2011 are as follows:

	Dec	Limit at ember 31, 2011	Deployed at ember 31, 2011	Deployed at ember 31, 2010
Catastrophe risk largest zonal limit	\$	2.8 billion	\$ 2.1 billion	\$ 2.5 billion
Casualty reserving risk total earned premiums for casualty and other long-tail lines for the four most recent underwriting periods		6.3 billion	2.9 billion	3.0 billion
Equity investment risk value of equity and equity-like securities		3.3 billion	1.4 billion	1.5 billion
Longevity risk net present value loss from extreme mortality improvement scenario		2.0 billion	1.2 billion	1.0 billion

The following table summarizes risk appetite and modeled economic loss at December 31, 2011 for the Company s major risks discussed above:

	Risk Appetite at December 31, 2011 ⁽¹⁾	Modeled Economic Loss at December 31, 2011 ⁽¹⁾	Modeled Economic Loss at December 31, 2010 ⁽¹⁾
Catastrophe risk 1 in 75 year annual aggregate loss	\$ 1.4 billion	\$ 1.2 billion	\$ 1.3 billion
Casualty reserving risk casualty and other long-tail lines 1 in 15 year prior years reserve development	0.7 billion	0.4 billion	0.4 billion
Equity investment risk 1 in 75 year decline in value	1.1 billion	0.4 billion	0.5 billion

⁽¹⁾ The Company has not defined a risk appetite for longevity risk as it believes that establishing a limit is currently the most appropriate risk management metric. In addition, the Company has not relied upon a modeled economic loss for longevity risk.

Other Underwriting Risk and Exposure Controls

The Company s underwriting is conducted at the Business Unit level through specialized underwriting teams with the support of technical staff in disciplines such as actuarial, claims, legal, risk management and finance.

The Company s underwriters generally speak the local language and/or are native to their country or area of specialization. They develop close working relationships with their ceding company counterparts and brokers through regular visits, gathering detailed information about the cedant s business and local market conditions and practices. As part of the underwriting process, the underwriters also focus on the reputation and quality of the proposed cedant, the likelihood of establishing a long-term relationship with the cedant, the geographic area in which the cedant does business and the cedant s market share, historical loss data for the cedant and, where available, historical loss data for the industry as a whole in the relevant regions, in order to compare the cedant s historical loss experience to industry averages, and to gauge the perceived insurance and reinsurance expertise and financial strength of the cedant. The Company trains its underwriters extensively and strives to maintain continuity of underwriters within specific geographic markets and areas of specialty.

Because the Company underwrites volatile lines of business, such as catastrophe reinsurance, the operating results and financial condition of the Company can be adversely affected by catastrophes and other large losses that may give rise to claims under reinsurance coverages provided by the Company. The Company manages its exposure to catastrophic and other large losses by (i) attempting to limit its aggregate exposure on catastrophe reinsurance in any particular geographic zone, (ii) selective underwriting practices, (iii) diversification of risks by geographic area and by lines and classes of business, and (iv) by purchasing retrocessional reinsurance.

The Company generally underwrites risks with specified limits per treaty program. Like other reinsurance companies, the Company is exposed to multiple insured losses arising out of a single occurrence, whether a natural event such as hurricane, windstorm, tornado, flood or earthquake, or man-made events. Any such catastrophic event could generate insured losses in one or many of the Company s reinsurance treaties and facultative contracts in one or more lines of business. The Company considers such event scenarios as part of its evaluation and monitoring of its aggregate exposures to catastrophic events.

Retrocessions

The Company uses retrocessional agreements to reduce its exposure on certain reinsurance risks assumed and to mitigate the effect of any single major event or the frequency of medium-sized events. These agreements provide for the recovery of a portion of losses and loss expenses from retrocessionaires. The majority of the Company s retrocessional agreements cover the property exposures, predominantly those that are catastrophe exposed. The Company also utilizes retrocessions in the Life segment to manage the amount of per-event and per-life risks to which it is exposed. Retrocessionaires are selected based on their financial condition and business practices, with stability, solvency and credit ratings being important criteria.

The Company remains liable to its cedants to the extent that the retrocessionaires do not meet their obligations under retrocessional agreements, and therefore retrocessions are subject to credit risk in all cases and to aggregate loss limits in certain cases. The Company holds collateral, including escrow funds, securities and letters of credit under certain retrocessional agreements. Provisions are made for amounts considered potentially uncollectible and reinsurance losses recoverable from retrocessionaires are reported after allowances for uncollectible amounts.

In addition to the retrocessional agreements, Paris Re France (now PartnerRe Europe) has a Reserve Agreement in place with Colisée Re (see Reserve Agreement above).

Claims

In addition to managing and settling reported claims and consulting with ceding companies on claims matters, the Company conducts periodic audits of specific claims and the overall claims procedures at the offices of ceding companies. The Company attempts to evaluate the ceding company s claim adjusting techniques and reserve adequacy and whether it follows proper claims processing procedures. The Company also provides recommendations regarding procedures and processes to the ceding company.

Other Key Issues of Management

Enterprise Culture

Management is focused on ensuring that the structure and culture of the organization promote intelligent, prudent, transparent and ethical decision-making. Management believes that a sound enterprise culture starts with the tone at the top. Management holds regular company-wide information sessions to present and review Management s latest decisions, whether operational, financial or structural, as well as the financial results of the Company. Employees are encouraged to address questions related to the Company s results, strategy or Management decisions, either anonymously or otherwise to Management so that they can be answered during these information sessions. Management believes that these sessions provide a consistent message to all employees about the Company s value of transparency. Management also strives to promote a work environment

23

that (i) aligns the skill set of individuals with challenges encountered by the Company, (ii) includes segregation of duties to ensure objectivity in decision-making, and (iii) provides a compensation structure that encourages and rewards intelligent risk taking and ethical behavior. To that effect, the Company has a written Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and provides employees with a direct communication channel to the Audit Committee of the Board in the event they become aware of questionable behavior of Management or any other employee. Finally, Management believes that building a sound internal control environment, including a strong Internal Audit function, helps ensure that behaviors are consistent with the Company s cultural values.

Capital Adequacy

A key challenge for Management is to maintain an appropriate level of capital, especially in light of the recent disruptions in the global credit and capital markets. Management s first priority is to hold sufficient capital to meet all of the Company s obligations to cedants, meet regulatory requirements and support its position as one of the stronger reinsurers in the industry. Holding an excessive amount of capital, however, will reduce the Company s Operating ROE. Consequently, Management closely monitors its capital needs and capital level throughout the reinsurance cycle and in times of volatility and turmoil in global capital markets, and actively takes steps to increase or decrease the Company s capital in order to achieve an appropriate balance of financial strength and shareholder returns. Capital management is achieved by either deploying capital to fund attractive business opportunities, or in times of excess capital and times when business opportunities are not so attractive, returning capital to its common shareholders by way of share repurchases and dividends. During 2011, the Company repurchased approximately 5.4 million of its common shares for a total cost of \$396 million. In addition, the Company increased the quarterly dividends on its common shares by 9% during the year, from \$0.55 per share to \$0.60 per share.

Liquidity and Cash Flows

The Company aims to be a reliable and financially secure partner to its cedants. This means that the Company must maintain sufficient liquidity at all times so that it can support its cedants by settling claims quickly. The Company generates cash flows primarily from its underwriting and investment operations. Management believes that a profitable, well-run reinsurance organization will generate sufficient cash from premium receipts to pay claims, acquisition costs and operating expenses in most years. To the extent that underwriting cash flows are not sufficient to cover operating cash outflows in any year, the Company may utilize cash flows generated from investments and may ultimately liquidate assets from its investment portfolio. Management ensures that its liquidity requirements are supported by maintaining a high quality, well balanced and liquid investment portfolio, and by matching the duration and currency of its investments and investments underlying the funds held directly managed account with that of its net reinsurance liabilities. In 2012, the Company expects to continue to generate positive operating cash flows, absent a series of unusual catastrophic events. The Company also maintains credit facilities with banks that can provide efficient access to cash in the event of an unforeseen cash requirement.

Employees

The Company had 1,281 employees at December 31, 2011. The Company may increase its staff over time commensurate with the expansion of operation. The Company believes that its relations with its employees are good.

Regulation

The business of reinsurance is regulated in all countries in which we operate, although the degree and type of regulation varies significantly from one jurisdiction to another. Some jurisdictions impose complex regulatory requirements on insurance businesses while other jurisdictions impose fewer requirements. In certain foreign countries, reinsurers are required to be licensed by governmental authorities. These licenses may be subject to

24

Table of Contents

modification, suspension or revocation dependent on such factors as amount and types of reserves and minimum capital and solvency tests. The violation of regulatory requirements may result in fines, censures and/or criminal sanctions in various jurisdictions. See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report.

As a holding company, PartnerRe is not directly subject to (re)insurance regulations, but its various material operating subsidiaries are subject to regulation as follows:

Bermuda

The Insurance Act 1978 of Bermuda and related regulations, as amended (the Insurance Act), regulates the insurance business of PartnerRe Bermuda. The Insurance Act imposes solvency and liquidity standards and auditing and reporting requirements on Bermuda insurance companies and grants the Bermuda Monetary Authority (BMA) powers to supervise, investigate and intervene in the affairs of insurance companies. The Insurance Act makes no distinction between insurance and reinsurance business.

PartnerRe Bermuda is licensed as a Class 4 and Class E insurer in Bermuda and is therefore authorized to carry on general and long-term insurance business in Bermuda. Significant aspects of the Bermuda insurance regulatory framework and requirements imposed on Class 4 and Class E insurers such as PartnerRe Bermuda include the following:

Minimum Capital Requirements. The BMA imposes certain minimum capital regulatory requirements on PartnerRe Bermuda referred to as the Enhanced Capital Requirements (ECR). PartnerRe Bermuda s Enhanced Capital Requirement (ECR) should be calculated by either (a) the model developed by the BMA, or (b) an internal capital model which the BMA has approved for use for this purpose. PartnerRe Bermuda currently uses the BMA model in calculating its solvency requirements. The Bermuda risk-based regulatory capital adequacy and solvency margin regime provides a risk-based capital model (termed the Bermuda Solvency Capital Requirement (BSCR)) as a tool to assist the BMA both in measuring risk and in determining appropriate levels of capitalization. The BSCR employs a standard mathematical model that correlates the risk underwritten by Bermuda insurers to the capital that is dedicated to their business. The BMA requires that insurers operate at or above a threshold capital level (termed the Target Capital Level), which exceeds the BSCR or approved internal model minimum amounts;

Solvency Assessment. PartnerRe Bermuda must perform an assessment of its own risk and solvency requirements, referred to as a Commercial Insurer s Solvency Self Assessment (CISSA). The CISSA allows the BMA to obtain an insurer s view of the capital resources required to achieve its business objectives and to assess a company s governance, risk management and controls surrounding this process. In addition, PartnerRe Bermuda must file with the BMA a Catastrophe Risk Return which assesses an insurer s reliance on vendor models in assessing catastrophe exposure:

Reporting Requirements. PartnerRe Bermuda must prepare annual statutory financial statements and file them with the BMA, together with audited annual financial statements which are prepared in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP); and

Restrictions on Dividends and Distributions. PartnerRe Bermuda is prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends of more than 25% of its total statutory capital and surplus, as shown in its previous financial year statutory balance sheet, unless at least seven days before payment of the dividends it files with the BMA an affidavit that it will continue to meet its required solvency margins. In addition, PartnerRe Bermuda must obtain the BMA s prior approval before reducing its total statutory capital, as shown in its previous financial year statutory balance sheet, by 15% or more.

In addition to the above regulatory requirements impacting PartnerRe Bermuda, current international initiatives in the regulation of global insurance and reinsurance groups, such as the European Union s Solvency II initiative (Solvency II), are trending towards the imposition of group supervisory regimes, introducing one principal home regulator over all the operating entities in a particular insurance or reinsurance group (referred

25

to as Group Supervision). The Insurance Act sets out provisions regarding Group Supervision including, the power of the BMA to exclude specified entities from Group Supervision, the power of the BMA to withdraw as group supervisor, the functions of the BMA as group supervisor and the power of the BMA to make rules regarding Group Supervision. This Group Supervision regime is in addition to the regulation of the Company s various operating subsidiaries in their local jurisdictions. The BMA s Group Supervision rules set out the rules in respect of the assessment of the financial situation and solvency of an insurance group, the system of governance and risk management, and supervisory reporting and disclosures of an insurance group. The group solvency rules set out the rules in respect of the capital and solvency return and enhanced capital requirements for an insurance group. The BMA has chosen PartnerRe Bermuda as the designated insurer for the purposes of Group Supervision, and the BMA will act as group supervisor of the PartnerRe group. As group supervisor, the BMA will gather relevant and essential information on and assess the financial situation of the PartnerRe group, and coordinate the dissemination of such information to other relevant competent authorities for the purposes of assisting in their regulatory functions and the enforcement of regulatory action against the PartnerRe group or any of its members. PartnerRe is not an insurer and, as such, is not regulated in Bermuda. However, pursuant to its functions as group supervisor, the BMA may include any member of the group within its Group Supervision, including PartnerRe.

Ireland

The Central Bank of Ireland (the Central Bank) regulates insurance and reinsurance companies authorized in Ireland, including PartnerRe Europe. PartnerRe Holdings Europe Limited, a holding company for PartnerRe Europe, is not subject to regulation by the Central Bank.

PartnerRe Europe is a reinsurance company incorporated under the laws of Ireland and is duly authorized as a reinsurance undertaking to carry on non-life and life reinsurance business in accordance with the European Communities (Reinsurance) Regulations 2006. Significant aspects of the Irish insurance regulatory framework and requirements imposed on PartnerRe Europe include the following:

Solvency Requirements. As a composite reinsurer, PartnerRe Europe is required to maintain a minimum capital (Solvency I) requirement throughout the year. This solvency margin is determined on a premium or claims basis that covers the total sum of required solvency margins in respect of both non-life and life business activities. In addition, the Central Bank requires PartnerRe Europe to specify their Strategic Solvency Target, in excess of the minimum capital requirement.

Reporting Requirements. PartnerRe Europe must file and submit its annual audited financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and related reports to the Irish Companies Registration Office together with an annual return of certain core corporate information. Changes to core corporate information during the year must also be notified to the Registrar. These requirements are in addition to the regulatory returns required to be filed annually with the Central Bank; and

Restrictions on Dividends and Distributions. Pursuant to Irish company law, PartnerRe Europe is restricted to declaring dividends only out of profits available for distribution . Profits available for distribution are, broadly, a company s accumulated realized profits less its accumulated realized losses. Such profits may not include profits previously utilized.

In addition to the above, PartnerRe Europe has also established operating branches in France, Switzerland, Canada, Singapore and Hong Kong and a representative office in Brazil, which are subject to Irish insurance supervision regulations. In addition, the Canadian branch is subject to regulation in Canada by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, the Singapore branch is subject to regulation by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Hong Kong branch to regulation by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance of Hong Kong. For a further discussion of the regulations pertaining to the Canadian branch see below.

United States

PartnerRe U.S. Corporation is a Delaware domiciled holding company for its wholly owned (re)insurance subsidiaries, PartnerRe U.S. and PartnerRe Insurance Company of New York (PRNY) (PartnerRe U.S. and

26

PRNY together being the PartnerRe U.S. Insurance Companies). The PartnerRe U.S. Insurance Companies are subject to regulation under the insurance statutes and regulations of their domiciliary state, New York, and all states where they are licensed, accredited or approved to underwrite insurance and reinsurance. Currently, the PartnerRe U.S. Companies are licensed, accredited or approved reinsurers and/or insurers in fifty states and the District of Columbia, and are subject to the following requirements:

Risk-Based Capital Requirements. The Risk-Based Capital (RBC) for Insurers Model Act (the Model RBC Act), as it applies to property and casualty insurers and reinsurers, was initially adopted by the NAIC in December 1993. The Model RBC Act or similar legislation has been adopted by the majority of states in the U.S. The main purpose of the Model RBC Act is to provide a tool for insurance regulators to evaluate the capital of insurers with respect to the risks assumed by them and to determine whether there is a need for possible corrective action. U.S. insurers and reinsurers are required to report the results of their RBC calculations as part of the statutory annual statements that such insurers and reinsurers file with state insurance regulatory authorities. The Model RBC Act provides for four different levels of regulatory actions, each of which may be triggered if an insurer s Total Adjusted Capital (as defined in the Model RBC Act) is less than a corresponding level of risk-based capital. Decreases in an insurer s Total Adjusted Capital as a percentage of its Annualized Control Level (as defined in the Model RBC Act) triggers increasing regulatory actions. Such regulatory actions include but are not limited to issuance of orders for corrective action by the insurer, rehabilitation or liquidation of the insurer;

Insurance Regulatory Information System (IRIS) Ratios. A committee of state insurance regulators developed the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) IRIS primarily to assist state insurance departments in executing their statutory mandates to oversee the financial condition of insurance or reinsurance companies operating in their respective states. IRIS identifies thirteen industry ratios and specifies usual values for each ratio. Generally, a company will become subject to regulatory scrutiny if it falls outside the usual ranges with respect to four or more of the ratios, and regulators may then act, if the company has insufficient capital, to constrain the company s underwriting capacity. No such action has been taken with respect to the PartnerRe U.S. Companies;

Reporting Requirements. Regulations vary from state to state, but generally require insurance holding companies and insurers and reinsurers that are subsidiaries of insurance holding companies to register and file with their state domiciliary regulatory authorities certain reports, including information concerning their capital structure, ownership, financial condition and general business operations. State regulatory authorities monitor compliance with, and periodically conduct examinations with respect to, state mandated standards of solvency, licensing requirements, investment limitations, and restrictions on the size of risks which may be reinsured, deposits of securities for the benefit of reinsureds, methods of accounting for assets, reserves for unearned premiums and losses, and other purposes. In general, such regulations are for the protection of reinsureds and, ultimately, their policyholders, rather than security holders. In the U.S., PartnerRe U.S. Insurance Companies current domiciliary regulator is the New York State Department of Financial Services; and

Restrictions on Dividends and Distributions. Under New York law, the New York State Department of Financial Services must approve any dividend declared or paid by the PartnerRe U.S. Insurance Companies that, together with all dividends declared or distributed by each of them during the preceding twelve months, exceeds the lesser of 10% of their respective statutory surplus as shown on the latest statutory financial statements on file with the New York Department of Financial Services, or 100% of their respective adjusted net investment income during that period. New York does not permit a dividend to be declared or distributed, except out of earned surplus.

In addition to the above, the following laws and initiatives currently impact or may impact the PartnerRe U.S. Insurance Companies in the future:

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the Dodd-Frank Act). The Dodd-Frank Act represents a comprehensive overhaul of the financial services industry within the United States and establishes a Federal Insurance Office under the U.S. Treasury Department to monitor all aspects of the insurance industry. The Dodd Frank Act made small changes to the regulation of credit for reinsurance and

27

surplus lines insurance in the U.S. Among other responsibilities the Federal Insurance Office will issue reports on how to modernize or improve insurance regulation and on the role of the global reinsurance market in supporting insurance in the United States. See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report.

NAIC Solvency Modernization Initiative. In 2008 the NAIC began its Solvency Modernization Initiative to examine the United States insurance solvency regulation framework with a focus on capital requirements, international accounting, insurance valuation, reinsurance and group regulatory issues. The major policy decisions arising from the Solvency Modernization Initiative are anticipated to be concluded by the end of 2012.

Canada

Each of the Canadian branches of PartnerRe Europe and PartnerRe U.S. holds a license to write reinsurance business in Canada. Each Canadian branch is authorized to insure, in Canada, risks falling within the classes of insurance as specified in their respective licenses and is limited to the business of reinsurance. The Canadian branch of PartnerRe Europe is licensed to write life business in Ontario and is currently applying for a license to write life business in Quebec. The Canadian branch of PartnerRe U.S. is licensed to write property and casualty business in Ontario and Quebec. Each Canadian branch is subject to local regulation for its Canadian branch business, specified principally pursuant to Part XIII of the Insurance Companies Act (the Canadian Insurance Act) applicable to foreign property and casualty companies and to foreign life companies as well as relevant provincial insurance acts. The Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Canada (OSFI) supervises the application of the Canadian Insurance Act.

PartnerRe U.S. and PartnerRe Europe maintain sufficient assets, vested in trust at a Canadian financial institution approved by OSFI, to allow their branches to meet minimum statutory solvency requirements as required by the Act and the regulations made under it. Certain statutory information is filed with federal and provincial insurance regulators in respect of both property and casualty and life business written by branches. This information includes, among other things, a yearly business plan and an annual Dynamic Capital Adequacy Test (DCAT) report from the Appointed Actuary of the branch that tests the adequacy of the assets that are vested under various adverse scenarios.

Other Regulatory Considerations

Moreover, there are various regulatory bodies and initiatives that impact PartnerRe in multiple international jurisdictions and the potential for significant impact on PartnerRe could be heightened as a result of recent industry and economic developments. In particular, Solvency II, adopted in the European Union aims to establish a revised set of risk-based capital requirements and risk management standards that will replace the current Solvency I requirements. Once finalized, Solvency II is expected to set out new, strengthened requirements applicable to the entire European Union relating to capital adequacy and risk management for insurers. See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report.

Taxation of the Company and its Subsidiaries

The following summary of the taxation of the Company, PartnerRe Bermuda, PartnerRe Europe and the PartnerRe U.S. Corporation and its subsidiaries (collectively PartnerRe U.S. Companies) is based upon current law. Legislative, judicial or administrative changes may be forthcoming that could affect this summary. Certain subsidiaries, branch offices and representative offices of the Company are subject to taxation related to operations in Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Labuan, Singapore, Switzerland and the United States. The discussion below covers the significant locations for which the Company or its subsidiaries are subject to taxation.

Bermuda

The Company and PartnerRe Bermuda have each received from the Minister of Finance an assurance under The Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Act, 1966 of Bermuda, to the effect that in the event that there is any legislation enacted in Bermuda imposing tax computed on profits or income, or computed on any capital asset,

28

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

gain or appreciation, or any tax in the nature of estate duty or inheritance tax, then the imposition of any such tax shall not be applicable to the Company or PartnerRe Bermuda or to any of their operations or the shares, debentures or other obligations of the Company or PartnerRe Bermuda until March 2035. These assurances are subject to the proviso that they are not construed to prevent the application of any tax or duty to such persons as are ordinarily resident in Bermuda (the Company and PartnerRe Bermuda are not currently so designated) or to prevent the application of any tax payable in accordance with the provisions of The Land Tax Act, 1967 of Bermuda or otherwise payable in relation to the property leased to PartnerRe Bermuda.

Canada

The Canadian non-life branch of PartnerRe U.S. and, from January 1, 2012, the Canadian life branch of PartnerRe Europe are subject to Canadian taxation on their profits. The profits of the Canadian life branch of PartnerRe Europe, from January 1, 2012, are taxed at the federal level as well as the Ontario-provincial level at a total rate that was 28.25% in 2011.

The Canadian non-life branch of PartnerRe U.S. is subject to taxation on its profits at the federal level as well as the Ontario and Quebec provincial level at a total rate that was an average of 28.32% in 2011. We expect this rate to decrease through 2014; however, the exact rate cannot be determined at this time. See also the discussion of taxation in the United States and Ireland below.

Canada has enacted a phased-in decrease of the Federal income tax rate; combined with the phased-in decrease of the income tax rate in the Province of Ontario, the total rate will be 26.25% in 2012, 25.50% in 2013 and 25.00% in 2014.

France

The French branch of PartnerRe Europe is conducting business in and is subject to taxation in France. The current statutory rate of tax on corporate profits in France is 36.1%. See also the discussion of taxation in Ireland below.

Ireland

The Company s Irish subsidiaries, PartnerRe Holdings Europe Ltd., PartnerRe Europe and PartnerRe Ireland Insurance Ltd, conduct business in and are subject to taxation in Ireland. Profits of an Irish trade or business are subject to Irish corporation tax at the rate of 12.5%, whereas profits arising from other than a trade or business are taxable at the rate of 25%. The U.S. subsidiaries and Swiss, French and Canadian life branches of PartnerRe Europe are subject to taxation in Ireland at the Irish corporation tax rate of 12.5%. However, under Irish domestic tax law, the amount of tax paid in Switzerland, the U.S., France and Canada can be credited or deducted against the Irish corporation tax. As a result, the Company does not expect to incur significant taxation in Ireland with respect to the Swiss, U.S., French and Canadian branches.

Switzerland

The Swiss branch of PartnerRe Europe is subject to Swiss taxation, mainly on profits and capital. To the extent that net profits are generated, profits are taxed at a rate of approximately 21%. The branch pays capital taxes at a rate of approximately 0.17% on its imputed branch capital calculated according to a procured taxation ruling. See also the discussion of taxation in Ireland above.

United States

PartnerRe U.S. Corporation and its subsidiaries (collectively the PartnerRe U.S. Companies) transact business in Canada and in the United States and are subject to taxation in the United States. The non-life branch of PartnerRe U.S. is also subject to taxation in Canada.

In addition, PartnerRe Europe writes certain U.S. and Latin American business in Miami, Florida, through its reinsurance intermediaries, PartnerRe Miami Inc. (PartnerRe Miami) and PartnerRe Connecticut Inc.

(PartnerRe Connecticut). As a result, PartnerRe Europe is deemed to be engaged in a United States trade or business and thus is subject to taxation in the United States. The current statutory rate of tax on corporate profits in the U.S. is 35%. See the discussion of U.S. branch taxation below and the discussion of taxation in Ireland above.

The Company does not expect that it and its subsidiaries, other than the PartnerRe U.S. Companies, PartnerRe Europe and its respective business sourced through PartnerRe Miami and PartnerRe Connecticut will be required to pay U.S. corporate income taxes (other than withholding taxes as described below). However, because there is considerable uncertainty as to the activities that constitute a trade or business in the United States, there can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) will not contend successfully that the Company or its non-U.S. subsidiaries are engaged in a trade or business in the United States. The maximum federal tax rate is currently 35% for a corporation s income that is effectively connected with a trade or business in the United States. In addition, U.S. branches of foreign corporations may be subject to the branch profits tax, which imposes a tax on U.S. branch after-tax earnings that are deemed repatriated out of the United States, for a potential maximum effective federal tax rate of approximately 54% on the net income connected with a U.S. trade or business.

Foreign corporations not engaged in a trade or business in the United States are subject to U.S. income tax, effected through withholding by the payer, on certain fixed or determinable annual or periodic gains, profits and income derived from sources within the United States as enumerated in Section 881(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, such as dividends and interest on certain investments.

The United States also imposes an excise tax on insurance and reinsurance premiums paid to foreign insurers or reinsurers with respect to risks located in the United States. The rate of tax applicable to reinsurance premiums paid to PartnerRe Bermuda is 1% of gross premiums.

Where You Can Find More Information

The Company s Annual Reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act are available free of charge through the investor information pages of its website, located at http://www.partnerre.com. Alternatively, the public may read or copy the Company s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC (http://www.sec.gov). None of the information on the Company s website or on the SEC s website is incorporated into this report except to the extent explicitly incorporated by reference in this report.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS Introduction

Current and potential investors in the Company should be aware that, as with any publicly traded company, investing in our securities carries risk. Managing risk effectively is paramount to our success, and our organization is built around intelligent risk assumptions and careful risk management, as evidenced by our development of the PartnerRe risk management framework, which provides an integrated approach to risk across the entire organization. We have identified what we believe reflect key significant risks to the organization, and in turn the shareholders. These risks should be read in conjunction with other Risk Factors described in more detail below under the heading Risk Factors.

First, in order to achieve our targeted compound annual growth in diluted book value per share of 10% over the reinsurance cycle, we believe we must be able to generate approximately 13% operating return on beginning diluted book value per share over the reinsurance cycle. Our ability to do that over a reinsurance cycle is

30

dependent on our individual performance, but also on industry factors that impact the level of competition and the level of cost. The level of competition is determined by supply and demand of capacity. Demand is determined by client buying behavior, which varies based on the client s perception of the amount and volatility of risk, its financial capacity to bear it and the cost of risk transfer. Supply is determined by the existing reinsurance companies level of financial strength and the introduction of capacity from new start-ups or capital markets. Significant new capacity or significant reduction in demand will depress industry profitability until the supply/demand balance is redressed. Extended periods of imbalance could depress industry profitability to a point where we would fail to meet our targets.

Second, we knowingly expose ourselves to significant volatility in our quarterly and annual net income. We create shareholder value by assuming risk from the insurance and capital markets. This exposes us to volatile earnings as untoward events happen to our clients and in the capital markets. Examples of potential large loss events include, without limitation:

Natural catastrophes such as hurricane, windstorm, flood, tornado, earthquake, etc.;
Man-made disasters such as terrorism;
Declines in the equity and credit markets;
Systemic increases in the frequency or severity of casualty losses; and
New mass tort actions or reemergence of old mass torts such as cases related to asbestosis. We manage large loss events through evaluation processes, which are designed to enable proper pricing of these risks over time, but which do little to moderate short-term earnings volatility. The only effective tool to dampen earnings volatility is through diversification by building a portfolio of uncorrelated risks. We do not currently buy significant amounts of retrocessional coverage, nor do we use significant capital market hedges or trading strategies in the pursuit of stability in earnings.
Third, we expose ourselves to several very significant risks that are of a size that can impact our financial strength as measured by U.S. GAAP or regulatory capital. We believe that the following can be categorized as very significant risks:
Catastrophe risk;
Casualty reserving risk;
Equity investment risk; and
Longevity risk. Each of these risks can accumulate to the point that they exceed a year s worth of earnings and affect the capital base of the Company (for further information about these risks see Risk Management in Item 1 of Part I of this report).

Table of Contents 40

We rely on our internal risk management processes, models and systems to manage these risks at the nominal exposure levels approved by the

Company s Board. However, because these models and processes may fail, we also impose limits on our exposure to these risks.

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

In addition to these enumerated risks, we face numerous other strategic and operational risks that could in the aggregate lead to shortfalls to our long-term goals or add to short-term volatility in our earnings, as described in Risk Management in Item 1 of Part I of this report. The following review of important risk factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with other cautionary statements that are included herein or elsewhere. The words or phrases believe, anticipate, estimate, project, plan, expect, intend, hope, forecast, evaluate, will likely result or will continue or words or phrases of similar import generally involve forward-looking statements. As used in these Risk Factors, the terms we, our or us may, depending upon the context, refer to the Company, to one or more of the Company s consolidated subsidiaries or to all of them taken as a whole.

Risk Factors

Risks Related to Our Company

The volatility of the catastrophe business that we underwrite will result in volatility of our earnings.

Catastrophe reinsurance comprised approximately 13% of our net premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2011 and a larger percentage of our capital at risk. Catastrophe losses result from events such as windstorms, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, hail, tornadoes, severe winter weather, fires, explosions and other natural and man-made disasters, the incidence and severity of which are inherently unpredictable. Because catastrophe reinsurance accumulates large aggregate exposures to man-made and natural disasters, our loss experience in this line of business could be characterized as low frequency and high severity. This is likely to result in substantial volatility in our financial results for any fiscal quarter or year, and may create downward pressure on the market price of our common shares and limit our ability to make dividend payments and payments on our debt securities.

Notwithstanding our endeavors to manage our exposure to catastrophic and other large losses, the effect of a single catastrophic event or series of events affecting one or more geographic zones, or changes in the relative frequency or severity of catastrophic or other large loss events, could reduce our earnings and limit the funds available to make payments on future claims. The effect of an increase in frequency of mid-size losses in any one reporting period affecting one or more geographic zones, such as an unusual level of hurricane activity, could also reduce our earnings. Should we incur more than one very large catastrophe loss, our ability to write future business may be adversely impacted if we are unable to replenish our capital.

By way of illustration, during the past five calendar years, the Company incurred the following pre-tax large catastrophe losses, net of reinstatement premiums (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Calendar year	Pre-tax large ca	tastrophe losses
2011	\$	1,790
2010		485
2009		
2008		305
2007		50

Examples of pre-tax large catastrophe losses reflected in the illustration above include a loss in 2007 which was the result of one large catastrophe event and losses in 2011, 2010 and 2008 which were incurred as the result of multiple medium and large catastrophic events. In 2011 these events included the Japan Earthquake, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, the floods that impacted Thailand following unusually heavy monsoon rains in October 2011 (Thailand Floods), tornadoes that caused severe destruction to large areas of southern, mid-western and northeastern United States in April and May 2011 (U.S. tornadoes) and the floods in Queensland, Australia (Australian Floods). In 2010, these events included the earthquake that hit Chile in February 2010 (Chile Earthquake) and the New Zealand earthquake that occurred in September 2010 (2010 New Zealand Earthquake).

Loss estimates arising from earthquakes are inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events. The Company s actual losses from the 2010 and February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes may materially exceed the estimated losses as a result of, among other things, an increase in industry insured loss estimates, the expected lengthy claims development period, in particular for earthquake related losses, and the receipt of additional information from cedants, brokers and loss adjusters. In addition, the Company s loss estimate related to the Japan Earthquake is inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events given the characteristics of the Company s reinsurance portfolio in the region. Further, changes in loss assumptions for specific cedants may have a material impact on the Company s loss estimate related to this event

32

given a significant portion of the losses are concentrated with a few large cedants. The Company believes there remains a high degree of uncertainty regarding its loss estimates related to the 2010 and February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes and the Japan Earthquake and the ultimate losses arising from these events may be materially in excess of, or less than, the amounts provided for in the Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011. Any adjustments to the Company s preliminary estimate of its ultimate losses related to these events will be reflected in the periods in which they are determined, which may affect the Company s operating results in future periods.

We believe, and recent scientific studies have indicated, that the frequency of Atlantic basin hurricanes has increased and may change further in the future relative to the historical experience over the past 100 years. As a result of changing climate conditions, such as global warming, there may be increases in the frequency and severity of natural catastrophes and the losses that result from them. We monitor and adjust, as we believe appropriate, our risk management models to reflect our judgment of how to interpret current developments and information, such as these studies.

We could face unanticipated losses from man-made catastrophic events and these or other unanticipated losses could impair our financial condition, reduce our profitability and decrease the market price of our shares.

We may have substantial exposure to unexpected, large losses resulting from future man-made catastrophic events, such as acts of terrorism, acts of war and political instability, or from other perils. Although we may attempt to exclude losses from terrorism and certain other similar risks from some coverage we write, we may continue to have exposure to such unforeseen or unpredictable events. This may be because, irrespective of the clarity and inclusiveness of policy language, there can be no assurance that a court or arbitration panel will not limit enforceability of policy language or otherwise issue a ruling adverse to us.

It is also difficult to predict the timing of such events with statistical certainty, or estimate the amount of loss any given occurrence will generate. Under U.S. GAAP, we are not permitted to establish reserves for potential losses associated with man-made or other catastrophic events until an event that may give rise to such losses occurs. If such an event were to occur, our reported income would decrease in the affected period. In particular, unforeseen large losses could reduce our profitability or impair our financial condition. See Political, regulatory, governmental and industry initiatives could adversely affect our business below for a summary of relevant U.S. federal initiatives regarding supply of commercial insurance coverage for certain types of terrorist acts in the U.S.

The inherent uncertainty of models and the use of such models as a tool to evaluate risk may have an adverse impact on our financial results.

In addition to our own proprietary catastrophe models, we use third party vendor analytic and modeling capabilities to provide us with objective risk assessment relating to other risks in our reinsurance portfolio. These models help us control risk accumulation, inform management and other stakeholders of capital requirements and to improve the risk/return profile or minimize the amount of capital required to cover the risks in each reinsurance contract in our overall portfolio of reinsurance contracts. However, given the inherent uncertainty of modeling techniques and the application of such techniques, these models and databases may not accurately address the emergence of a variety of matters which might be deemed to impact certain of our coverages. Accordingly, these models may understate the exposures we are assuming and our financial results may be adversely impacted, perhaps significantly.

If actual losses exceed our estimated loss reserves, our net income and capital position will be reduced.

Our success depends upon our ability to accurately assess the risks associated with the businesses that we reinsure. We establish loss reserves to cover our estimated liability for the payment of all losses and loss expenses incurred with respect to premiums earned on the contracts that we write. Loss reserves are estimates involving actuarial and statistical projections at a given time to reflect our expectation of the costs of the ultimate

settlement and administration of claims. Losses for casualty and liability lines often take a long time to be reported, and frequently can be impacted by lengthy, unpredictable litigation and by the inflation of loss costs over time. As a consequence, actual losses and loss expenses paid may deviate substantially from the reserve estimates reflected in our financial statements.

Although we did not operate prior to 1993, we assumed certain asbestos and environmental exposures through our acquisitions. Our reserves for losses and loss expenses include an estimate of our ultimate liability for asbestos and environmental claims for which we cannot estimate the ultimate value using traditional reserving techniques, and for which there are significant uncertainties in estimating the amount of our potential losses. Certain of our subsidiaries have received and continue to receive notices of potential reinsurance claims from ceding insurance companies, which have in turn received claims asserting asbestos and environmental losses under primary insurance policies, in part reinsured by us. Such claims notices are often precautionary in nature and are generally unspecific, and the primary insurers often do not attempt to quantify the amount, timing or nature of the exposure. Given the lack of specificity in some of these notices, and the legal and tort environment that affects the development of claims reserves, the uncertainties inherent in valuing asbestos and environmental claims are not likely to be resolved in the near future. In addition, the reserves that we have established may be inadequate. If ultimate losses and loss expenses exceed the reserves currently established, we will be required to increase loss reserves in the period in which we identify the deficiency to cover any such claims.

As a result, even when losses are identified and reserves are established for any line of business, ultimate losses and loss expenses (that is, the administrative costs of managing and settling claims) may deviate, perhaps substantially, from estimates reflected in loss reserves in our financial statements. Variations between our loss reserve estimates and actual emergence of losses could be material and could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Since we rely on a few reinsurance brokers for a large percentage of our business, loss of business provided by these brokers could reduce our premium volume and net income.

We produce our business both through brokers and through direct relationships with insurance company clients. For the year ended December 31, 2011, approximately 72% of our gross premiums written were produced through brokers. In 2011, we had two brokers that accounted for 47% of our gross premiums written. Because broker-produced business is concentrated with a small number of brokers, we are exposed to concentration risk. A significant reduction in the business produced by these brokers could potentially reduce our premium volume and net income.

We are exposed to credit risk relating to our reinsurance brokers and cedants.

In accordance with industry practice, we may pay amounts owed under our policies to brokers, and they in turn pay these amounts to the ceding insurer. In some jurisdictions, if the broker fails to make such an onward payment, we might remain liable to the ceding insurer for the deficiency. Conversely, the ceding insurer may pay premiums to the broker, for onward payment to us in respect of reinsurance policies issued by us. In certain jurisdictions, these premiums are considered to have been paid to us at the time that payment is made to the broker, and the ceding insurer will no longer be liable to us for those amounts, whether or not we have actually received the premiums. We may not be able to collect all premiums receivable due from any particular broker at any given time. We also assume credit risk by writing business on a funds withheld basis. Under such arrangements, the cedant retains the premium they would otherwise pay to us to cover future loss payments.

If we are significantly downgraded by rating agencies, our standing with brokers and customers could be negatively impacted and may adversely impact our results of operations.

Third party rating agencies assess and rate the claims paying ability and financial strength of insurers and reinsurers, such as the Company s principal operating subsidiaries. These ratings are based upon criteria established by the rating agencies and have become an important factor in establishing our competitive position

34

in the market. They are not an evaluation directed to investors in our common shares, preferred shares or debt securities, and are not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold our common shares, preferred shares or debt securities. Rating agencies may downgrade or withdraw their ratings at their sole discretion.

Our current financial strength ratings are:

Standard & Poor s	A+
Moody s	A1
A.M. Best	A+
Fitch	AA-

On January 24, 2012, A.M. Best placed the Company s A+ rating under review with negative implications.

If our ratings were significantly downgraded, our competitive position in the reinsurance industry may suffer, and it could result in a reduction in demand for our products. In addition, certain business that we write contains terms that give the ceding company or derivative counterparty the right to terminate cover and/or require collateral if our ratings are downgraded significantly.

We may require additional capital in the future, which may not be available or may only be available on unfavorable terms.

Our future capital requirements depend on many factors, including our ability to write new business successfully, the frequency and severity of catastrophic events, and our ability to establish premium rates and reserves at levels sufficient to cover losses. We may need to raise additional funds through financings or curtail our growth and reduce our assets. Any equity or debt financing, if available at all, may be on terms that are not favorable to us. Equity financings could be dilutive to our existing shareholders and could result in the issuance of securities that have rights, preferences and privileges that are senior to those of our other securities. Financial markets in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere have experienced extreme volatility and disruption in recent times, resulting in part from financial stresses affecting the liquidity of the banking system. Continued disruption in the financial markets may limit our ability to access capital required to operate our business and we may be forced to delay raising capital or bear a higher cost of capital, which could decrease our profitability and significantly reduce our financial flexibility. In addition, if we experience a credit rating downgrade, withdrawal or negative watch/outlook in the future, we could incur higher borrowing costs and may have more limited means to access capital. If we cannot obtain adequate capital on favorable terms or at all, our business, operating results and financial condition could be adversely affected.

The exposure of our investments to interest rate, credit and equity risks may limit our net income and may affect the adequacy of our capital.

We invest the net premiums we receive unless and until such time as we pay out losses and/or until they are made available for distribution to shareholders and /or otherwise used for general corporate purposes. Investment results comprise a substantial portion of our income. For the year ended December 31, 2011, we had net investment income of \$629 million, which represented approximately 12% of total revenues. In addition, we recorded realized and unrealized gains on investments during 2011, and we record all realized and unrealized gains or losses through net income. While the Board has implemented what it believes to be prudent risk management and investment asset allocation practices, we are exposed to significant financial and capital market risks, including changes in interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices, foreign exchange rates, market volatility, the performance of the economy in general and other factors outside our control.

Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors, including fiscal and monetary policies of major economies, economic and political conditions and other factors outside our control. Changes in interest rates can negatively affect us in two ways. In a declining interest rate environment, we will be required to invest our funds at lower rates, which would have a negative impact on investment income. In a rising interest rate environment, the market value of our fixed income portfolio may decline.

Our fixed income portfolio is primarily invested in high quality, investment grade securities. However, we invest a portion of the portfolio in securities that are below investment grade, including high yield fixed income investments and convertible fixed income investments. We also invest a portion of our portfolio in other investments such as fixed income type mutual funds, notes receivable, loans receivable, private placement bond investments, derivative exposure assumed and other specialty asset classes. These securities generally pay a higher rate of interest and have a higher degree of credit or default risk. These securities may also be less liquid in times of economic weakness or market disruptions.

We invest a portion of our portfolio in preferred and common stocks or equity-like securities. The value of these assets fluctuates with equity markets. In times of economic weakness, the market value and liquidity of these assets may decline, and may impact net income and capital.

We use the term equity-like investments to describe our investments that have market risk characteristics similar to equities and are not investment grade fixed income securities. This category includes high yield and convertible fixed income investments and private placement equity investments. Fluctuations in the fair value of our equity-like investments may reduce our income in any period or year and cause a reduction in our capital.

Foreign currency fluctuations may reduce our net income and our capital levels.

Through our multinational reinsurance operations, we conduct business in a variety of foreign (non-U.S.) currencies, the principal exposures being the euro, Canadian dollar, British pound, New Zealand dollar, Japanese Yen and Australian dollar. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are exposed to changes in currency exchange rates. Our reporting currency is the U.S. dollar, and exchange rate fluctuations relative to the U.S. dollar may materially impact our results and financial position. We employ various strategies (including hedging) to manage our exposure to foreign currency exchange risk. To the extent that these exposures are not fully hedged or the hedges are ineffective, our results or equity may be reduced by fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates.

The current state of the global economy and capital markets increases the possibility of adverse effects on our financial position and results of operations. Economic downturns could impair our investment portfolio and affect the primary insurance market, which could, in turn, harm our operating results and reduce our volume of new business.

Global capital markets in the United States and Europe continue to experience volatility and certain economies remain in recession. Disruptions in the global capital markets increased the spread between the yields realized on risk-free and higher risk securities. Credit spreads increased in 2011 and illiquidity remains in certain parts of the debt capital markets. The longer this economic dislocation persists, the greater the probability that these risks could have an adverse effect on our financial results. This may be evidenced in several ways including, but not limited to, a potential reduction in our premium income, financial losses in our investment portfolio and decreases in revenue and net income.

Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events could prevent us from increasing our underwriting activities and negatively impact our operating results. In addition, our cedants and other counterparties may be affected by such developments in the financial markets, which could adversely affect their ability to meet their obligations to us.

We have exposure to the European sovereign debt crisis which could have a negative impact on our investment assets.

In 2011, the global economy experienced extreme uncertainty as a result of the European sovereign debt crisis. Initial worries about the sustainability of the sovereign debt of peripheral European countries as a result of significant economic, fiscal and/or political strains experienced in 2010 have now extended to larger European

economies. The sovereign debt crisis has resulted in European financial restructuring efforts. The impact of these efforts is unclear, however, they may cause a further deterioration in the value of the euro and consequently exacerbating instability in global credit markets, and increased credit concerns resulting in the widening of bond yield spreads. In addition, recent rating agency downgrades on European sovereign debt and a growing concern of the potential default of government issuers or of a possible disorganized break-up of the European Union has contributed to this uncertainty. The impact of these developments, while potentially severe, remains extremely difficult to predict. However, should European governments default on their obligations, there will be a negative impact on government and non-government issued bonds, government guaranteed corporate bonds and bonds and equities issued by financial institutions and financials held within the country of default which in turn could adversely impact Euro-denominated assets held in our investment portfolio.

We may suffer losses due to defaults by others, including issuers of investment securities, reinsurance and derivative counterparties.

Issuers or borrowers whose securities we hold, reinsurers, clearing agents, clearing houses and other financial intermediaries may default on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, insolvency, lack of liquidity, adverse economic conditions, fraud or other reasons. Our investment portfolio may include investment securities in the financial services sector that have recently experienced defaults. All or any of these types of default could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

We may be adversely affected if Colisée Re, AXA or their affiliates fail to honor their obligations to Paris Re or its clients.

As part of the AXA Acquisition, Paris Re entered into the 2006 Acquisition Agreements. See Business Reserves Non-life Reserves Reserve Agreement in Item 1 of Part I of this report.

Pursuant to the Quota Share Retrocession Agreement, the benefits and risks of Colisée Re s reinsurance agreements were ceded to Paris Re France (now PartnerRe Europe), but Colisée Re remains both the legal counterparty for all such reinsurance contracts and the legal holder of the assets relating to such reserves.

Under the Run Off Services and Management Agreement, Paris Re France (now PartnerRe Europe) has agreed that AXA LM will manage claims arising from all reinsurance and retrocession contracts subject to the Reserve Agreement. If AXA LM does not take into account Paris Re France s commercial concerns in the context of Paris Re France s on-going business relations with the relevant ceding companies and retrocessionaires, our ability to renew reinsurance and retrocession contracts with them may be adversely affected.

There can be no assurance that our business activities, financial condition, results or future prospects may not be adversely affected in spite of the existence of the 2006 Acquisition Agreements. In general, if AXA or its affiliates breach or do not satisfy their obligations under the 2006 Acquisition Agreements (potentially as a result of insolvency or inability or unwillingness to make payments under the terms of the 2006 Acquisition Agreements), we could be materially adversely affected.

Our debt, credit and International Swap Dealers Association (ISDA) agreements may limit our financial and operational flexibility, which may affect our ability to conduct our business.

We have incurred indebtedness, and may incur additional indebtedness in the future. Additionally, we have entered into credit facilities and ISDA agreements with various institutions. Under these credit facilities, the institutions provide revolving lines of credit to us and our major operating subsidiaries and issue letters of credit to our clients in the ordinary course of business.

37

The agreements relating to our debt, credit facilities and ISDA agreements contain various covenants that may limit our ability, among other things, to borrow money, make particular types of investments or other restricted payments, sell assets, merge or consolidate. Some of these agreements also require us to maintain specified ratings and financial ratios, including a minimum net worth covenant. If we fail to comply with these covenants or meet required financial ratios, the lenders or counterparties under these agreements could declare a default and demand immediate repayment of all amounts owed to them.

If we are in default under the terms of these agreements, then we would also be restricted in our ability to declare or pay any dividends, redeem, purchase or acquire any shares or make a liquidation payment.

If any one of the financial institutions that we use in our operations, including those that participate in our credit facilities, fails or is otherwise unable to meet their commitments, we could incur substantial losses and reduced liquidity.

We maintain cash balances significantly in excess of the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limits at various depository institutions. We also have funding commitments from a number of banks and financial institutions that participate in our credit facilities. See Item 7 Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Credit Facilities. Access to funds under these existing credit facilities is dependent on the ability of the banks that are parties to the facilities to meet their funding requirements. Those banks may not be able to meet their funding requirements if they experience shortages of capital and liquidity or if they experience excessive volumes of borrowing requests within a short period of time, and we might be forced to replace credit sources in a difficult market. There have also been recent consolidations in the banking industry which could lead to increased reliance on and exposure to a limited number of institutions. If we cannot obtain adequate financing or sources of credit on favorable terms, or at all, our business, operating results and financial condition could be adversely impacted.

Changes in current accounting practices and future pronouncements may materially impact our reported financial results.

Developments in accounting practices, for example a convergence of U.S. GAAP with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), may require considerable additional expense to comply, particularly if we are required to prepare information relating to prior periods for comparative purposes or to apply the new requirements retroactively. The impact of changes in current accounting practices and future pronouncements cannot be predicted and may be significant. The impact may affect the results of our operations, including among other things, the calculation of net income, and may affect our financial position, including among other things, the calculation of unpaid losses and loss expenses, policy benefits for life and annuity contracts and total shareholders equity.

Operational risks, including human or systems failures, are inherent in our business.

Operational risks and losses can result from many sources including fraud, errors by employees, failure to document transactions properly or to obtain proper internal authorization, failure to comply with regulatory requirements or information technology failures.

We believe our modeling, underwriting and information technology and application systems are critical to our business and reputation. Moreover, our technology and applications have been an important part of our underwriting process and our ability to compete successfully. Such technology is and will continue to be a very important part of our underwriting process. We have also licensed certain systems and data from third parties. We cannot be certain that we will have access to these, or comparable service providers, or that our technology or applications will continue to operate as intended. In addition, we cannot be certain that we would be able to replace these service providers or consultants without slowing our underwriting response time. A major defect or failure in our internal controls or information technology and application systems could result in management distraction, harm to our reputation, a loss or delay of revenues or increased expense.

The loss of key executive officers could adversely affect us.

Our success has depended, and will continue to depend, partly upon our ability to attract and retain executive officers. If any of these executives ceased to continue in his or her present role, we could be adversely affected.

We believe there are only a limited number of available qualified executives in the business lines in which we compete. Our ability to execute our business strategy is dependent on our ability to attract and retain a staff of qualified executive officers, underwriters and other key personnel. The skills, experience and knowledge of the reinsurance industry of our management team constitute important competitive strengths. If some or all of these managers leave their positions, and even if we were able to find persons with suitable skills to replace them, our operations could be adversely affected.

Risks Related to Our Industry

Our profitability is affected by the cyclical nature of the reinsurance industry.

Historically, the reinsurance industry has experienced significant fluctuations in operating results due to competition, levels of available capacity, trends in cash flows and losses, general economic conditions and other factors. Demand for reinsurance is influenced significantly by underwriting results of primary insurers, including catastrophe losses, and prevailing general economic conditions. The supply of reinsurance is related directly to prevailing prices and levels of capacity that, in turn, may fluctuate in response to changes in rates of return on investments being realized in the reinsurance industry. If any of these factors were to result in a decline in the demand for reinsurance or an overall increase in reinsurance capacity, our profitability could be impacted. In recent years, we have experienced a generally softening market cycle, with increased competition, surplus underwriting capacity, deteriorating rates and less favorable terms and conditions all having an impact on our ability to write business.

We operate in a highly competitive environment.

The reinsurance industry is highly competitive and we compete with a number of worldwide reinsurance companies, including, but not limited to, Munich Re, Swiss Re, Everest Re, Hannover Re, SCOR, Transatlantic and reinsurance operations of certain primary insurance companies, such as Arch Capital, Axis Capital and XL Group. Competition in the types of reinsurance that we underwrite is based on many factors, including the perceived financial strength of the reinsurer, pricing, terms and conditions offered, services provided, ratings assigned by independent rating agencies, speed of claims payment and experience in the lines of reinsurance to be written. If competitive pressures reduce our prices, we would expect to write less business. In addition, competition for customers would become more intense and we could incur additional expenses relating to customer acquisition and retention, further reducing our operating margins.

Further, insurance-linked securities and derivative and other non-traditional risk transfer mechanisms and vehicles are being developed and offered by other parties, which could impact the demand for traditional insurance or reinsurance. A number of new, proposed or potential industry or legislative developments could further increase competition in our industry. New competition from these developments could cause the demand for insurance or reinsurance to fall or the expense of customer acquisition and retention to increase, either of which could have a material adverse affect on our growth and profitability.

Legal and Regulatory Risks

Political, regulatory, governmental and industry initiatives could adversely affect our business.

Our reinsurance operations are subject to extensive laws and regulations that are administered and enforced by a number of different governmental and non-governmental self-regulatory authorities and associations in each

of their respective jurisdictions and internationally. As a result of the current financial crisis, some of these authorities regularly consider enhanced or new regulatory requirements intended to prevent future crises or otherwise assure the stability of institutions under their supervision. These authorities may also seek to exercise their supervisory authority in new and more robust ways, and new regulators could become authorized to oversee parts of our business. For example, the European Union's Solvency II initiative and the NAIC's Solvency Modernization Initiative include meaningful changes in consolidated supervision and corporate governance requirements as they apply to insurance and reinsurance corporate groups, which could lead to increases in regulatory capital requirements, reduced operational flexibility and increased compliance costs. In addition, the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) has recently introduced a concept paper promoting a common framework for the supervision of internationally active insurance groups (IAIGs). Through the common framework, the IAIS aims to: (i) develop methods of operating group-wide supervision of IAIGs, (ii) establish a comprehensive framework for supervisors to address group-wide activities and risks and also set grounds for better supervisory cooperation, and (iii) foster global convergence of regulatory and supervisory measures and approaches. It is not possible to predict all future impacts of these types of changes but they could affect the way we conduct our business and manage our capital, and may require us to satisfy increased capital requirements, any of which, in turn, could affect our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. Our material subsidiaries regulatory environments are described in detail under the heading Business Regulation. Regulations relating to each of our material subsidiaries may in effect restrict each of those subsidiaries ability to write new business, to make certain investments and to distri

Recent government intervention and the possibility of future government intervention have created uncertainty in the insurance and reinsurance markets. Government regulators are generally concerned with the protection of policyholders to the exclusion of others, including shareholders of reinsurers. In light of the current financial crisis, we believe it is likely there will be increased regulation of, and other forms of government participation in, our industry in the future, which could adversely affect our business by, among other things:

Providing reinsurance capacity in markets and to clients that we target or requiring our participation in industry pools and guaranty associations;

Further restricting our operational or capital flexibility;

Expanding the scope of coverage under existing policies;

Regulating the terms of reinsurance policies; or

Disproportionately benefiting the companies domiciled in one country over those domiciled in another. Such a U.S. federal initiative was put forward in response to the tightening of supply in certain insurance and reinsurance markets resulting from, among other things, the September 11th tragedy, and consequently the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (TRIA) was enacted to ensure the availability of commercial insurance coverage for certain types of terrorist acts in the U.S. In December 2007, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (TRIPRA) was enacted, which further renewed TRIA for another 7 years ending December 31, 2014.

Such a state initiative in the U.S. was put forward by the Florida Legislature in response to the tightening of supply in certain insurance and reinsurance markets in Florida resulting from, among other things, hurricane damage in Florida, which enacted the Hurricane Preparedness and Insurance Act to ensure the availability of catastrophe insurance coverage for catastrophes in the state of Florida. More recent legislative proposals would limit the reinsurance coverage available from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund and limit exposure to assessments from the state-run Citizens Property Insurance Company.

The insurance industry is also affected by political, judicial and legal developments that may create new and expanded theories of liability, which may result in unexpected claim frequency and severity and delays or cancellations of products and services we provide, which could adversely affect our business.

We are unable to predict the effect that governmental actions for the purpose of stabilizing the financial markets will have on such markets generally or on the Company in particular.

In response to the financial crisis affecting the banking system and financial markets, the U.S. federal government, the European Central Bank and other governmental and regulatory bodies have taken or are considering taking other actions to address the governance of those industries that are viewed as presenting a systemic risk to economic stability. Such actions include the International Monetary Fund s proposal to levy a financial stability tax on all financial institutions, the proposals for enhanced regulation and supervision contained in the recently published Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development paper on the impact of the financial crisis on the Insurance sector and the financial regulatory reform provisions contained within the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. We are unable to predict the effect that the enactment of any such proposals will have on the financial markets generally or on the Company s competitive position, business and financial condition in particular, though we are monitoring these and similar proposals as they evolve.

The Dodd-Frank Act may adversely impact our business.

The U.S. Congress and the current administration have made, or called for consideration of, several additional proposals relating to a variety of issues with respect to financial regulation reform, including regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market, the establishment of a single-state system of licensure for U.S. and foreign reinsurers, further regulation of executive compensation and others. One of those initiatives, the Dodd-Frank Act, was signed into law by President Obama on July 21, 2010. The Dodd-Frank Act represents a comprehensive overhaul of the financial services industry within the United States and establishes a Federal Insurance Office under the U.S. Treasury Department to monitor all aspects of the insurance industry. The director of the Federal Insurance Office will have the ability to recommend that an insurance company or an insurance holding company be subject to heightened prudential standards. Compliance with these new laws and regulations may result in additional costs which may adversely impact our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. However, at this time, it is not possible to predict with any degree of certainty whether any other proposed legislation, rules or regulatory changes will be adopted or what impact, if any, the Dodd-Frank Act or any other such legislation, rules or changes could have on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Solvency II could adversely impact our financial results and operations.

Solvency II, a European Union directive concerning the capital adequacy, risk management and regulatory reporting for insurers, which was adopted by the European Parliament and the European Council in April of 2009, may adversely affect our reinsurance businesses. A bifurcated implementation of Solvency II by the European Commission is expected to take effect January 1, 2013 and 2014 in the European Union Member States, and will replace the current solvency requirements. Solvency II adopts a risk-based approach to insurance regulation. Its principal goals are to improve the correlation between capital and risk, effect group supervision of insurance and reinsurance affiliates, implement a uniform capital adequacy structure for insurers across the European Union Member States, establish consistent corporate governance standards for insurance and reinsurance companies, and establish transparency through standard reporting of insurance operations. Implementation of Solvency II will require us to utilize a significant amount of resources to ensure compliance. In addition, the measures implementing Solvency II are currently subject to a consultation process and are not expected to be finalized until 2012; consequently, our implementation plans are based on our current understanding of the Solvency II requirements, which may change. The European Union is in the process of considering the Solvency II equivalence of Bermuda s insurance regulatory regime provides a similar level of policyholder protection as provided under Solvency II. A finding that Bermuda s insurance regulatory regime is not equivalent to the European Union s Solvency II could have an adverse effect on the cost of PartnerRe Bermuda s European business due to the potential to have to post collateral. It would not affect PartnerRe

41

Europe s ability to operate in Europe. Such a finding could also have adverse indirect commercial impacts on our operations. We are monitoring the ongoing legislative and regulatory steps following adoption of Solvency II. The principles, standards and requirements of Solvency II may also, directly or indirectly, impact the future supervision of additional operating subsidiaries of ours.

Legal and enforcement activities relating to the insurance industry could affect our business and our industry.

The insurance industry has experienced substantial volatility as a result of litigation, investigations and regulatory activity by various insurance, governmental and enforcement authorities concerning certain practices within the insurance industry. These practices include the accounting treatment for finite reinsurance or other non-traditional or loss mitigation insurance and reinsurance products.

These investigations have resulted in changes in the insurance and reinsurance markets and industry business practices. While at this time, none of these changes have caused an adverse effect on our business, we are unable to predict the potential effects, if any, that future investigations may have upon our industry.

Emerging claim and coverage issues could adversely affect our business.

Unanticipated developments in the law, as well as changes in social and environmental conditions could potentially result in unexpected claims for coverage under our insurance, reinsurance and other contracts. These developments and changes may adversely affect our business by either extending coverage beyond our underwriting intent or by increasing the number or size of claims. With respect to our casualty businesses, these legal, social and environmental changes may not become apparent until sometime after their occurrence. Our exposure to these uncertainties could be exacerbated by an increase in insurance and reinsurance contract disputes, arbitration and litigation.

The full effects of these and other unforeseen emerging claim and coverage issues are extremely hard to predict. As a result, the full extent of our liability under our coverages, and in particular, our casualty reinsurance contracts, may not be known for many years after a contract is issued.

The insurance industry is also affected by political, judicial and legal developments that may create new and expanded theories of liability, which may result in unexpected claim frequency and severity and delays or cancellations of products and services we provide, which could adversely affect our business.

Investors may encounter difficulties in service of process and enforcement of judgments against us in the United States.

We are a Bermuda company and some of our directors and officers are residents of various jurisdictions outside the United States. All, or a substantial portion, of the assets of our officers and directors and of our assets are or may be located in jurisdictions outside the United States. Although we have appointed an agent and irrevocably agreed that the agent may be served with process in New York with respect to actions against us arising out of violations of the United States Federal securities laws in any Federal or state court in the United States, it could be difficult for investors to effect service of process within the United States on our directors and officers who reside outside the United States. It could also be difficult for investors to enforce against us or our directors and officers judgments of a United States court predicated upon civil liability provisions of United States Federal securities laws.

There is no treaty in force between the United States and Bermuda providing for the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters. As a result, whether a United States judgment would be enforceable in Bermuda against us or our directors and officers depends on whether the United States court that entered the judgment is recognized by the Bermuda court as having jurisdiction over us or our directors and officers, as determined by reference to Bermuda conflict of law rules. A judgment debt from a United States

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

court that is final and for a sum certain based on United States Federal securities laws will not be enforceable in Bermuda unless the judgment debtor had submitted to the jurisdiction of the United States court, and the issue of submission and jurisdiction is a matter of Bermuda law and not United States law.

In addition to and irrespective of jurisdictional issues, Bermuda courts will not enforce a United States Federal securities law that is either penal or contrary to public policy. An action brought pursuant to a public or penal law, the purpose of which is the enforcement of a sanction, power or right at the instance of the state in its sovereign capacity will not be entered by a Bermuda court. Certain remedies available under the laws of United States jurisdictions, including certain remedies under United States Federal securities laws, would not be available under Bermuda law or enforceable in a Bermuda court, as they would be contrary to Bermuda public policy. Further, no claim can be brought in Bermuda against us or our directors and officers in the first instance for violation of United States Federal securities laws because these laws have no extra jurisdictional effect under Bermuda law and do not have force of law in Bermuda. A Bermuda court may, however, impose civil liability on us or our directors and officers if the facts alleged in a complaint constitute or give rise to a cause of action under Bermuda law.

Risks Related to Our Common Shares

We are a holding company, and if our subsidiaries do not make dividend and other payments to us, we may not be able to pay dividends or make payments on our common and preferred shares and other obligations.

We are a holding company with no operations or significant assets other than the capital stock of our subsidiaries and other intercompany balances. We have cash outflows in the form of operating expenses, dividends to both common and preferred shareholders and, from time to time, cash outflows for the repurchase of common shares under our share repurchase program. We rely primarily on cash dividends and payments from our subsidiaries to meet our cash outflows. We expect future dividends and other permitted payments from our subsidiaries to be the principal source of funds to pay expenses and dividends. The payment of dividends by our reinsurance subsidiaries is limited under Bermuda and Irish laws and certain statutes of various U.S. states in which our U.S. subsidiaries are licensed to transact business. As of December 31, 2011, there were no significant restrictions on the payment of dividends by the Company s subsidiaries that would limit the Company s ability to pay common and preferred shareholders dividends and its corporate expenses.

Because we are a holding company, our right, and hence the right of our creditors and shareholders, to participate in any distribution of assets of any subsidiary of ours, upon our liquidation or reorganization or otherwise, is subject to the prior claims of policyholders and creditors of these subsidiaries.

Provisions in our bye-laws may restrict the voting rights of our shares and may restrict the transferability of our shares.

Our bye-laws generally provide that if any person owns, directly, indirectly or by attribution, more than 9.9% of the total combined voting power of our shares entitled to vote, the voting rights attached to such shares will be reduced so that such person may not exercise and is not attributed more than 9.9% of the total combined voting power. In addition, our board of directors may limit a shareholder s exercise of voting rights where it deems it necessary to do so to avoid non-de minimis adverse tax, legal or regulatory consequences to us, any of our subsidiaries or any of our shareholders.

Under our bye-laws, subject to waiver by our board of directors, no transfer of our shares is permitted if such transfer would result in a shareholder controlling more than 9.9% determined by value or by voting power of our outstanding shares. Our bye-laws also provide that if our board of directors determines that share ownership by a person may result in (i) shareholder owning directly, indirectly or by retribution, more than 9.9% of the total combined voting power of our shares entitled to vote, or (ii) any non-de minimis adverse tax, legal or

regulatory consequences to us, any of our subsidiaries or any of our shareholders, then we have the option, but not the obligation, to require that shareholder to sell to us for fair market value the minimum number of shares held by such person which is necessary so that after such purchase such shareholder will not own more than 9.9% of the total combined voting power, or is necessary to eliminate the non-de minimis adverse tax, legal or regulatory consequences.

We also have the authority under our bye-laws to request information from any shareholder for the purpose of determining whether a shareholder s voting rights are to be limited pursuant to our bye-laws. If a shareholder fails to timely respond to our request for information or submits incomplete or inaccurate information in response to a request by us, we may, in our sole discretion, eliminate or reduce the shareholder s voting rights.

Taxation Risks

If our non-U.S. operations become subject to U.S. income taxation, our net income will decrease.

We believe that we and our non-U.S. subsidiaries (other than business sourced by PartnerRe Europe through PartnerRe Miami and PartnerRe Connecticut) have operated, and will continue to operate, our respective businesses in a manner that will not cause us to be viewed as engaged in a trade or business in the United States and, on this basis, we do not expect that either we or our non-U.S. subsidiaries will be required to pay U.S. corporate income taxes (other than potential withholding taxes on certain types of U.S.-source passive income). Because there is considerable uncertainty as to the activities that constitute being engaged in a trade or business within the United States, the IRS may contend that either we or our non-U.S. subsidiaries are engaged in a trade or business in the United States. If either we or our non-U.S. subsidiaries are subject to U.S. income tax, our shareholders equity and net income will be reduced by the amount of such taxes, which might be material.

PartnerRe U.S. Corporation and its subsidiaries conduct business in the United States, and are subject to U.S. corporate income taxes.

The impact of Bermuda's letter of commitment to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to eliminate harmful tax practices is uncertain and could adversely affect our tax status in Bermuda.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has published reports and launched a global initiative among member and non-member countries on measures to limit harmful tax competition. These measures are largely directed at counteracting the effects of tax havens and preferential tax regimes in countries around the world. Bermuda was not listed in the most recent report as an uncooperative tax haven

44

jurisdiction because it had previously committed to eliminate harmful tax practices, to embrace international tax standards for transparency, to exchange information and to eliminate an environment that attracts business with no substantial domestic activity. We are not able to predict what changes will arise from the commitment or whether such changes will subject us to additional taxes.

If proposed U.S. legislation is passed, our U.S. reinsurance subsidiary may be subject to higher U.S. taxation and our net income would decrease.

Currently, our U.S. reinsurance subsidiary retrocedes or may retrocede a portion of its U.S. business to our non-U.S. reinsurance subsidiaries and is generally entitled to deductions for premiums paid for such retrocessions. Proposed legislation has been introduced that if enacted would impose a limitation on such deductions, which could result in increased U.S. tax on this business and decreased net income. It is not possible to predict whether this or similar legislation may be enacted in the future.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The Company leases office space in Hamilton (Bermuda) where the Company s principal executive offices are located. Additionally, the Company leases office space in various locations, including Beijing, Dublin, Greenwich (Connecticut), Hong Kong, Mexico City, Miami, Montreal, New York, Paris, Santiago, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo, Toronto, Washington, D.C., Zug and Zurich.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Litigation

The Company s reinsurance subsidiaries, and the insurance and reinsurance industry in general, are subject to litigation and arbitration in the normal course of their business operations. In addition to claims litigation, the Company and its subsidiaries may be subject to lawsuits and regulatory actions in the normal course of business that do not arise from or directly relate to claims on reinsurance treaties. This category of business litigation typically involves, among other things, allegations of underwriting errors or misconduct, employment claims or regulatory activity. While the outcome of business litigation cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company will dispute all allegations against the Company and/or its subsidiaries that Management believes are without merit.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company was not a party to any litigation or arbitration that it believes could have a material effect on the financial condition, results of operations or liquidity of the Company.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

The Company has the following securities (with their related symbols) traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE):

Common shares	PRE
6.75% Series C cumulative preferred shares	PRE-PrC
6.50% Series D cumulative preferred shares	PRE-PrD
7.25% Series E cumulative preferred shares	PRE-PrE

The Company s common shares are also traded on the NYSE Euronext Paris exchange and Bermuda Stock Exchange under the symbol PRE.

As of February 17, 2012, the approximate number of common shareholders was 69,088.

The following table provides information about purchases by the Company during the quarter ended December 31, 2011, of equity securities that are registered by the Company pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Period	Total number of shares purchased	Average price paic per share	Total number of shares purchased as part of a publicly announced program (1)(2)	Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the program ⁽¹⁾
10/01/2011-10/31/2011	•	\$	• 0	3,732,807
11/01/2011-11/30/2011	1,439,831	65.45	1,439,831	6,449,824
12/01/2011-12/31/2011	1,173,000	64.18	1,173,000	5,276,824
Total	2,612,831	\$ 64.88	2,612,831	

⁽¹⁾ In November 2011, the Company's Board of Directors approved a new share repurchase authorization up to a total of 7 million common shares, which replaced the prior authorization of 7 million common shares approved in December 2010. Unless terminated earlier by resolution of the Company's Board of Directors, the program will expire when the Company has repurchased all shares authorized for repurchase thereunder.

(2) At December 31, 2011, approximately 19.4 million common shares were held in treasury and available for reissuance.

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices per share of the Company's common shares for each of the fiscal quarters in the last two fiscal years as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape and dividends declared by the Company:

		2011			2010	
			Dividends			Dividends
Period	High	Low	Declared	High	Low	Declared
Three months ended March 31	\$83.18	\$72.78	\$ 0.55	\$ 80.20	\$ 72.00	\$ 0.50
Three months ended June 30	82.52	67.28	0.60	81.57	70.06	0.50
Three months ended September 30	69.50	51.98	0.60	80.18	70.12	0.50

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Three months ended December 31 **67.78 50.67 0.60** 82.00 77.50 0.55

46

Other information with respect to the Company s common shares and related shareholder matters is contained in Notes 7, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 19 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report and in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated by reference to this item.

Comparison of 5-Year Cumulative Total Return

The graph below compares the cumulative shareholder return, including reinvestment of dividends, on the Company s common shares to such return for Standard & Poor s (S&P) 500 Composite Stock Price Index and S&P s 1500 Composite Property & Casualty Insurance Index for the period commencing on December 31, 2006 and ending on December 31, 2011, assuming \$100 was invested on December 31, 2006. Each measurement point on the graph below represents the cumulative shareholder return as measured by the last sale price at the end of each year during the period from December 31, 2006 through December 31, 2011. As depicted in the graph below, during this period the cumulative total shareholder return on the Company s common shares was 4%, the cumulative total return for the S&P 500 Composite Stock Price Index was (1)% and the cumulative total return for the S&P 1500 Composite Property & Casualty Insurance Index was 0%.

The Company has attempted to identify an index which most closely matches its business. There are no indices that properly reflect the returns of the reinsurance industry. The S&P 1500 Composite Property & Casualty Insurance Index is used as it is the broadest index of companies in the property and casualty industry. We caution the reader that this index of 25 companies does not include any companies primarily engaged in the reinsurance business, and therefore it is provided to offer context for evaluating performance, rather than direct comparison.

47

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA Selected Consolidated Financial Data

This data should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report and with other information contained in this report, including Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

The Statement of Operations Data reflects the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries for 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, including the results of Paris Re from October 2, 2009. The Balance Sheet Data reflects the consolidated financial position of the Company and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, including Paris Re from December 31, 2009.

(Expressed in millions of U.S. dollars or shares, except per share data)

		For the years ended December 31,			
Statement of Operations Data	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Gross premiums written	\$ 4,633	\$ 4,885	\$ 4,001	\$ 4,028	\$ 3,810
Net premiums written	4,486	4,705	3,949	3,989	3,757
Net premiums earned	\$ 4,648	\$ 4,776	\$4,120	\$ 3,928	\$ 3,777
Net investment income	629	673	596	573	523
Net realized and unrealized investment gains (losses)	67	402	591	(531)	(72)
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes			89		
Other income (loss)	8	10	22	10	(17)
Total revenues	5,352	5,861	5,418	3,980	4,211
Losses and loss expenses and life policy benefits	4,373	3,284	2,296	2,609	2,082
Total expenses	5,797	4,892	3,635	3,918	3,328
(Loss) income before taxes and interest in (losses) earnings of equity					
investments	(445)	969	1,783	62	883
Income tax expense	69	129	262	10	82
Interest in (losses) earnings of equity investments	(6)	13	16	(5)	(83)
Net (loss) income	\$ (520)	\$ 853	\$ 1,537	\$ 47	\$ 718
(+ (==+)	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	+ -,	Ŧ	
Basic net (loss) income per common share	\$ (8.40)	\$ 10.65	\$ 23.93	\$ 0.22	\$ 12.18
Diluted net (loss) income per common share	\$ (8.40)	\$ 10.46	\$ 23.51	\$ 0.22	\$ 11.87
Dividends declared and paid per common share	\$ 2.35	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.88	\$ 1.84	\$ 1.72
Operating (loss) earnings available to common shareholders (1)(3)	\$ (642)	\$ 492	\$ 931	\$ 433	\$ 841
Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share	, (-,				
and common share equivalents outstanding (2)(3)	(10.1)%	7.4%	22.3%	11.5%	26.1%
Weighted average number of common shares and common share	, í				
equivalents outstanding	67.6	78.2	63.9	55.6	57.6
Non-life ratios					
Loss ratio	96.7%	65.9%	52.7%	63.9%	50.8%
Acquisition ratio	21.3	21.3	21.9	23.3	22.9
Other operating expense ratio	7.4	7.8	7.2	6.9	6.7
- · · ·					
Combined ratio	125.4%	95.0%	81.8%	94.1%	80.4%

48

	At December 31,				
Balance Sheet Data	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Total investments, funds held directly managed and cash and cash					
equivalents	\$ 17,898	\$ 18,181	\$ 18,165	\$ 11,724	\$ 11,572
Total assets	22,855	23,364	23,733	16,279	16,149
Unpaid losses and loss expenses and policy benefits for life and annuity					
contracts	12,919	12,417	12,427	8,943	8,773
Debt related to senior notes	750	750	250	250	
Debt related to capital efficient notes	71	71	71	258	258
Long-term debt				200	620
Total shareholders equity	6,468	7,207	7,646	4,199	4,322
Diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents					
outstanding	\$ 84.82	\$ 93.77	\$ 84.51	\$ 63.95	\$ 67.96
Number of common shares outstanding, net of treasury shares	65.3	70.0	82.6	56.5	54.3

- (1) Operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders is calculated as net income or loss available to common shareholders excluding net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments, net of tax, net realized gain on purchase of CENts, net of tax, net foreign exchange gains or losses, net of tax, and interest in earnings or losses of equity investments, net of tax, where the Company does not control the investee companies—activities, and is calculated after preferred dividends. The presentation of operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G. See Key Financial Measures in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a detailed discussion of the measures used by the Company to evaluate its financial performance.
- (2) Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Operating ROE) is calculated using operating earnings or loss, as defined above, per diluted common share and common share equivalents outstanding, divided by diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding at the beginning of the year. The presentation of Operating ROE is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G. See Key Financial Measures in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a detailed discussion of the measures used by the Company to evaluate its financial performance.
- (3) Effective January 1, 2011, Management redefined its operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders calculation to additionally exclude net foreign exchange gains or losses. In addition, Management redefined its Operating return on beginning diluted book value per share and common share equivalents outstanding calculation to measure operating return on a diluted per share basis (Operating ROE, previously referred to as operating return on beginning common shareholders equity). Operating earnings or loss and Operating ROE for all periods presented have been recast to reflect the Company s redefined non-GAAP measures. See Key Financial Measures in Item 7 of Part II of this report for a discussion of Management s reasons for redefining these measures.

49

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis reflects the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, including the results of Paris Re from October 2, 2009, the date of the acquisition of the controlling interest (Acquisition Date).

Executive Overview

The Company is a leading global reinsurer, with a broadly diversified and balanced portfolio of traditional reinsurance risks and capital markets risks. The Company is economic objective is to manage a portfolio of risks that will generate compound annual Diluted Book Value per Share growth of 10% over the reinsurance cycle and an average Operating Return on Equity (ROE) of 13% over a reinsurance cycle. Management assesses both of these economic objectives over the reinsurance cycle, rather than any particular quarterly or annual period, given the Company is profitability is significantly affected by the level of large catastrophic losses that it incurs each period. Both of these metrics are defined below in Key Financial Measures.

Successful risk management is the foundation of the Company s value proposition, with diversification of risks at the core of its risk management strategy. The Company s ability to succeed in the risk assumption and management business is dependent on its ability to accurately analyze and quantify risk, to understand volatility and how risks aggregate or correlate, and to establish the appropriate capital requirements and limits for the risks assumed. All risks, whether they are reinsurance related risks or capital market risks, are managed by the Company within an integrated framework of policies and processes that ensure the intelligent and consistent evaluation and valuation of risk, and ultimately provide an appropriate return to shareholders. For further discussion of the Company s risk management framework, see Risk Management in Item 1 of Part I of this report.

The following discussion provides an overview of the Company s business and trends and commentary regarding the outlook for 2012 in each business.

Non-life reinsurance business, trends and 2012 outlook

The Company generates its Non-life reinsurance revenue from premiums. Premium rates and terms and conditions vary by line of business depending on market conditions. Pricing cycles are driven by supply of capital in the industry and demand for reinsurance and other risk transfer products. The reinsurance business is also influenced by several other factors, including variations in interest rates and financial markets, changes in legal, regulatory and judicial environments, loss trends, inflation and general economic conditions.

In its reinsurance portfolio, the Company writes all lines of business in virtually all markets worldwide, and differentiates itself through its risk management strategy and its financial strength. In assuming its clients—risks, the Company removes the volatility associated with those risks from the clients—financial statements, and then manages those risks and the risk-related volatility. Through its broad product and geographic diversification, its execution capabilities and its local presence in most major markets, the Company is able to stabilize returns, respond quickly to market needs, and capitalize on business opportunities virtually anywhere in the world.

A key challenge facing the Company is to successfully manage risk through all phases of the reinsurance cycle. The Company believes that its long-term strategy of closely monitoring the progression of each line of business, being selective in the business that it writes, and maintaining the diversification and balance of its portfolio, will optimize returns over the reinsurance cycle. Individual lines of business and markets have their own unique characteristics and are at different stages of the reinsurance pricing cycle at any given point in time. Management believes it has achieved appropriate portfolio diversification by product, geography, line and type of business, length of tail, and distribution channel, and that this diversification, in addition to the financial strength of the Company and its strong global franchise, will help to mitigate cyclical declines in underwriting profitability and to achieve a more stable return over the reinsurance cycle.

The Non-life reinsurance market has historically been highly cyclical in nature. The reinsurance cycle is driven by competition, the amount of capital and capacity in the industry, loss events and investment returns. The Company s long-term strategy to generate shareholder value focuses on broad product, asset and geographic diversification of risks.

The cyclicality of the Non-life reinsurance market is characterized by cycles of growth and decline, known as hard and soft insurance cycles. Since late 2003, the Company began to see the emergence of a soft market across most of lines of business with general decreases in pricing and profitability. With the exception of lines and markets impacted by specific events, this trend continued throughout the decade. In 2011, this trend broadly continued with diverse conditions prevailing in various markets. Certain markets and lines of business in the Company s Non-life segment experienced increased competition, higher cedant retentions and declines in pricing, while the terms in other markets strengthened or remained stable. The Company also experienced increases in pricing in certain loss affected lines of business and markets, which were primarily related to the increased catastrophic and large loss activity during 2011. The most significant events impacting the Company during 2011 were the Japan Earthquake, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, Thailand Floods, U.S. tornadoes and the Australian Floods, which together with the impact of aggregate contracts covering losses in Australia and New Zealand are collectively referred to as 2011 catastrophic events.

During the January 2012 renewals, the Company experienced a modest increase in expected premium volume despite fragmented market conditions with reductions in pricing and increased cedant retentions in certain lines of business, while pricing improvements were observed in other areas. Management believes it has improved the balance and diversification in its portfolio by continuing to reduce its catastrophe exposures at January 1, 2012.

Life reinsurance business, trends and 2012 outlook

The Company s Life segment derives revenues primarily from renewal premiums from existing reinsurance treaties and new premiums from existing or new reinsurance treaties. The long-term profitability of the Life segment mainly depends on the volume and amount of death claims incurred and the ability to adequately price the risk the Company assumes. The life reinsurance policies are often in force for the remaining lifetime of the underlying individuals insured, with premiums earned typically over a period of 10 to 30 years. The volume of the business may be reduced each year by terminations of the underlying treaties related to lapses, voluntary surrenders, death of insureds and recaptures by ceding companies. While death claims are reasonably predictable over a period of many years, claims become less predictable over shorter periods and can fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter or from year to year.

Within the Company s Life segment, the reinsurance market is differentiated between mortality (including disability) and longevity products, with mortality being the larger market. For both the mortality and longevity markets, the Company observed attractive opportunities to grow the portfolio during 2011. Management believes the life business provides the Company with additional diversification benefits and balance to its portfolio as it is generally non-correlated to the Company s Non-life business. The Company does not write new life business in the U.S. market.

Given the majority of the Company s Life segment contracts are written on a continuous basis, the January 1 renewals impact a relatively limited portion of the portfolio, which is exclusive to the mortality line. The Company observed unchanged pricing conditions and terms for renewals, leading the Company to cancel or reduce certain treaty participations, which was largely offset by improved terms on certain other existing treaties and new business from both new and existing clients.

51

Capital markets business, trends and 2012 outlook

The Company generates revenue from its high quality investment portfolio, as well as the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, through net investment income, including coupon interest on fixed maturities and dividends on equities, and realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments.

For the Company s capital markets risks, which include both public and private market investments, diversification of risk is critical to achieving the risk and return objectives of the Company. The Company s investment policy distinguishes between liquid, high quality assets that support the Company s liabilities, and the more diversified, higher risk asset classes that make up the Company s capital funds. While there will be years where capital markets risks achieve less than the risk-free rate of return, or potentially even negative results, the Company believes the rewards for assuming these risks in a disciplined and measured way will produce a positive excess return to the Company over time. Additionally, since capital markets risks are not fully correlated with the Company s reinsurance risks, this increases the overall diversification of the Company s total risk portfolio.

The Company s capital markets and investment operations, including public and private market investments, have experienced volatile market conditions since the middle of 2007, reflecting the continued instability in the global economy and financial markets. The Company believes that capital market risks managed in a disciplined and measured way will generate positive excess returns to the Company over time.

The Company follows prudent investment guidelines through a strategy that seeks to maximize returns while managing investment risk in line with the Company s overall objectives of earnings stability and long-term book value growth. The Company allocates its invested assets into two categories: liability funds and capital funds. See the discussion of liability funds and capital funds in Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources. A key challenge for the Company is achieving the right balance between current investment income and total returns (that include price appreciation or depreciation) in changing market conditions. The Company regularly reviews the allocation of investments to asset classes within its investment portfolio and its funds held—directly managed account and allocates investments to those asset classes the Company anticipates will outperform in the near future, subject to limits and guidelines. Similarly, the Company reduces its exposure to risk asset classes where returns are underperforming. The Company may also lengthen or shorten the duration of its fixed income portfolio in anticipation of changes in interest rates, or increase or decrease the amount of credit risk it assumes, depending on credit spreads and anticipated economic conditions. During 2011, the Company shortened the duration of its fixed income portfolio given historically low interest rates and to limit the impact of a potential rise in interest rates.

Assuming constant foreign exchange rates, Management expects net investment income to decrease in 2012 compared to 2011 primarily due to lower reinvestment rates with low government yields expected to continue throughout 2012. Management expects this decrease to be partially offset by expected positive cash flow from operations (including net investment income).

52

Key Financial Measures

In addition to the Consolidated Balance Sheets and Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive (Loss) Income, Management uses certain key measures to evaluate its financial performance and the overall growth in value generated for the Company s common shareholders. The four key measures that Management uses, together with definitions of their calculations, are as follows at December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009:

			mber 31, 2011	ember 31, 2010
Diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (1)		\$	84.82	\$ 93.77
	2011	2	2010	2009
Operating (loss) earnings available to common shareholders (in millions of U.S.				
dollars) (2)	\$ (642)	\$	492	\$ 931
Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share and				
common share equivalents outstanding (3)	(10.1)%		7.4%	22.3%
Combined ratio (4)	125.4%		95.0%	81.8%

- (1) Diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding is calculated using common shareholders equity (shareholders equity less the aggregate liquidation value of preferred shares) divided by the number of fully diluted common shares and common share equivalents outstanding (assuming exercise of all stock-based awards and other dilutive securities).
- (2) Operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders (operating earnings or loss) is calculated as net income or loss available to common shareholders excluding net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments, net of tax, net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes (CENts), net of tax, net foreign exchange gains or losses, net of tax, and interest in earnings or losses of equity investments, net of tax, where the Company does not control the investee companies—activities, and is calculated after preferred dividends. The presentation of operating earnings or loss is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G (see Comment on Non-GAAP Measures below) and is reconciled to the nearest GAAP financial measure below. Effective January 1, 2011, Management redefined its operating earnings or loss calculation, as discussed below.
- (3) Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Operating ROE) is calculated using annualized operating earnings or loss, as defined above, per diluted common share and common share equivalents outstanding, divided by diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding as of the beginning of the year, as defined above. For the year ended December 31, 2009, following the acquisition of Paris Re, Management adjusted Operating ROE to be the sum of the operating earnings per diluted share for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 divided by the beginning diluted book value per common share plus the operating earnings per diluted share for the three months ended December 31, 2009 divided by the beginning diluted book value per common share plus the per diluted share impact of equity issued related to the acquisition of Paris Re. The presentation of Operating ROE is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G (see Comment on Non-GAAP Measures below) and is reconciled to the nearest GAAP financial measure below. Effective January 1, 2011, Management redefined its Operating ROE calculation, as discussed below.
- (4) The combined ratio of the Non-life segment is calculated as the sum of the technical ratio (losses and loss expenses and acquisition costs divided by net premiums earned) and the other operating expense ratio (other operating expenses divided by net premiums earned).
 Effective January 1, 2011, Management redefined its operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders (operating earnings or loss) calculation to additionally exclude net foreign exchange gains or losses. Management believes that net foreign exchange gains or losses are not indicative of the performance of, and distort trends in, the Company s business as they predominantly result from general economic and foreign

53

exchange market conditions. In addition, Management redefined its Annualized operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Operating ROE, previously referred to as operating return on beginning common shareholders equity) calculation to measure Operating ROE on a diluted per share basis. Management believes that the redefined Operating ROE incorporates capital management activities whilst still being based on the concept of deploying available capital on an annual basis. Operating earnings or loss and Operating ROE for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 have been recast to reflect the Company s redefined non-GAAP measures.

Diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding (Diluted Book Value per Share): Management uses compound annual growth rate in Diluted Book Value per Share as a prime measure of the value the Company is generating for its common shareholders, as Management believes that growth in the Company s Diluted Book Value per Share ultimately translates into growth in the Company s share price. Management has set a target compound annual growth rate of 10% in Diluted Book Value per Share, after the payment of dividends, over the reinsurance cycle. Diluted Book Value per Share is impacted by the Company s net income or loss, capital resources management and external factors such as foreign exchange, interest rates, credit spreads and equity markets, which can drive changes in realized and unrealized gains or losses on its investment portfolio.

The Company s Diluted Book Value per Share decreased by 10% to \$84.82 at December 31, 2011 from \$93.77 at December 31, 2010, primarily due to the comprehensive loss of \$537 million. The comprehensive loss was driven by the net loss of \$520 million resulting primarily from the significant level of 2011 catastrophic events and dividends declared on the Company s common and preferred shares of \$206 million. These decreases were partially offset by the accretive impact of share repurchases during 2011. Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2011 and the significant level of 2011 catastrophic losses are described in Overview and Review of Net (Loss) Income below.

Over the past five years, since December 31, 2006, the Company has generated a compound annual growth rate in Diluted Book Value per Share in excess of 8% and over the past ten years, since December 31, 2001, the Company has generated a compound annual growth rate in Diluted Book Value per Share in excess of 11%. Both the 5-year and the 10-year compound annual growth rates, compared to the decrease in Diluted Book Value per Share during 2011, illustrate why Management takes a longer-term view of growth in Diluted Book Value per Share over the reinsurance cycle, given single periods can be volatile as a result of the level of catastrophe losses incurred.

Operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders (operating earnings or loss): Management uses operating earnings or loss to measure its financial performance as this measure focuses on the underlying fundamentals of the Company's operations by excluding net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments, interest in earnings or losses of equity investments and net foreign exchange gains or losses. Net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments in any particular period are not indicative of the performance of, and distort trends in, the Company's business as they predominantly result from general economic and financial market conditions, and the timing of realized gains or losses on investments is largely opportunistic. Interest in earnings or losses of equity investments are also not indicative of the performance of, or trends in, the Company's business as the Company does not control the investee companies activities. Net foreign exchange gains or losses are not indicative of the performance of, and distort trends in, the Company's business as they predominantly result from general economic and foreign exchange market conditions. Management believes that the use of operating earnings or loss enables investors and other users of the Company's financial information to analyze its performance in a manner similar to how Management analyzes performance. Management also believes that this measure follows industry practice and, therefore, allows the users of financial information to compare the Company's performance with its industry peer group, and that the equity analysts and certain rating agencies which follow the Company, and the insurance industry as a whole, generally exclude these items from their analyses for the same reasons.

Operating earnings decreased by \$1,134 million, from \$492 million in 2010 to a loss of \$642 million in 2011 mainly due to a decrease in the Non-life underwriting result of \$1,177 million, which was driven primarily

54

by the large 2011 catastrophic events, and to a lesser extent, a decrease in net investment income of \$44 million. These decreases were partially offset by lower corporate operating expenses of \$67 million and an increase in the Life underwriting result of \$24 million.

Operating earnings decreased by \$439 million from \$931 million in 2009 to \$492 million in 2010 primarily due to a decrease in the Non-life underwriting result of \$451 million, a decrease in Life underwriting result of \$40 million and various other factors. These factors contributing to a decrease in operating earnings were partially offset by a lower tax expense that is attributable to operating earnings of \$77 million and an increase in net investment income of \$77 million.

These factors contributing to the increases or decreases in operating earnings in 2011 compared to 2010 and in 2010 compared to 2009 are further described in Overview and Review of Net (Loss) Income below.

The presentation of operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G and should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for, measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP (see Comment on Non-GAAP Measures). The table below provides a reconciliation of operating earnings or loss to the most comparable GAAP financial measure for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Net (loss) income	\$ (520)	\$ 853	\$ 1,537
Less:			
Net realized and unrealized investment gains, net of tax	15	301	497
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes, net of tax			57
Net foreign exchange gains, net of tax	67	13	1
Interest in (losses) earnings of equity investments, net of tax	(7)	12	16
Dividends to preferred shareholders	47	35	35
Operating (loss) earnings available to common shareholders	\$ (642)	\$ 492	\$ 931

Operating ROE: Management uses annualized Operating ROE as a measure of profitability that focuses on the return to common shareholders. Management has set an average 13% Operating ROE target over the reinsurance cycle, which Management believes provides an attractive return to shareholders for the risk assumed. Each Business Unit and support department throughout the Company is focused on seeking to ensure that the Company meets the 13% return objective. This means that most economic decisions, including capital attribution and underwriting pricing decisions, incorporate an Operating ROE impact analysis. For the purpose of that analysis, an appropriate amount of capital (equity) is attributed to each transaction for determining the transaction s priced return on attributed capital. Subject to an adequate return for the risk level as well as other factors, such as the contribution of each risk to the overall risk level and risk diversification, capital is attributed to the transactions generating the highest priced return on deployed capital. Management s challenge consists of (i) attributing an appropriate amount of capital to each transaction based on the risk created by the transaction, (ii) properly estimating the Company s overall risk level and the impact of each transaction on the overall risk level, (iii) assessing the diversification benefit, if any, of each transaction, and (iv) deploying available capital. The risk for the Company lies in mis-estimating any one of these factors, which are critical in calculating a meaningful priced return on deployed capital, and entering into transactions that do not contribute to the Company s 13% Operating ROE objective.

Operating ROE decreased from 7.4% in 2010 to a loss of 10.1% in 2011. The decrease in Operating ROE was primarily due to the decrease in operating earnings, which was driven by the large 2011 catastrophic events.

Operating ROE decreased from 22.3% in 2009 to 7.4% in 2010 primarily due to the decrease in operating earnings and a higher beginning diluted book value per share balance in 2010 compared to 2009, which also resulted in a reduction in the Company s premium leverage. The higher beginning diluted book value per share balance in 2010 was due to the strong net income during 2009.

The factors contributing to increases or decreases in operating earnings are described further in Operating earnings or loss available to common shareholders above and in Overview and Review of Net (Loss) Income.

The average Operating ROE for the last five years and ten years was 11.4% and 12.2%, respectively. Both the 5-year and the 10-year averages reflect higher Operating ROE primarily in years that were not impacted by any significant catastrophic losses, and illustrates why management measures performance based on an average Operating ROE target over the reinsurance cycle rather than focusing on the results for single periods, which can be volatile depending on the level of catastrophic losses incurred.

The presentation of Operating ROE is a non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G and should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for, measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP (see Comment on Non-GAAP Measures). The table below provides a reconciliation of Operating ROE to the most comparable GAAP financial measure for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009:

	2011	2010	2009 (1)
Return on beginning diluted book value per common share calculated with net (loss) income per share available to common shareholders	(9.0)%	12.4%	37.4%
Less:	(9.0) %	12.4%	37.470
Net realized and unrealized investment gains, net of tax, on beginning diluted book value per			
common share	0.2	4.6	13.3
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes, net of tax, on beginning diluted book value per common share			1.5
Net foreign exchange gains, net of tax, on beginning diluted book value per common share	1.0	0.2	
Net interest in (losses) earnings of equity investments, net of tax, on beginning diluted book value per common share	(0.1)	0.2	0.3
Operating return on beginning diluted book value per common share	(10.1)%	7.4%	22.3%

(1) For the year ended December 31, 2009, following the acquisition of Paris Re, Management adjusted the return on beginning diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding to be the sum of the results for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 divided by beginning of year diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding plus the results for the three months ended December 31, 2009 divided by beginning of year diluted book value per common share and common share equivalents outstanding plus the equity issued related to the acquisition of Paris Re.

Combined Ratio: The combined ratio is used industry-wide as a measure of underwriting profitability for Non-life business. A combined ratio under 100% indicates underwriting profitability, as the total losses and loss expenses, acquisition costs and other operating expenses are less than the premiums earned on that business. While an important metric of underwriting profitability, the combined ratio does not reflect all components of profitability, as it does not recognize the impact of investment income earned on premiums between the time premiums are received and the time loss payments are ultimately made to clients. The key challenges in managing the combined ratio metric consist of (i) focusing on underwriting profitable business even in the weaker part of the reinsurance cycle, as opposed to growing the book of business at the cost of profitability, (ii) diversifying the portfolio to achieve a good balance of business, with the expectation that underwriting losses in certain lines or markets may potentially be offset by underwriting profits in other lines or markets, and (iii) maintaining control over expenses.

Since 2002, the Company has had eight years of underwriting profitability reflected in combined ratios of less than 100% for its Non-life segment, with the only exceptions being 2005 and 2011. In 2005, when the industry recorded its worst year in history in terms of catastrophe losses, with Hurricane Katrina being the largest insured event ever, the Company recorded a net underwriting loss and Non-life combined ratio of 116.3%. In

2011, when the industry incurred a high frequency of large losses related to the 2011 catastrophic events the Company recorded a net underwriting loss and Non-life combined ratio of 125.4%.

The increase in the Non-life combined ratio of 30.4 points to 125.4% in 2011 from 95.0% in 2010 was primarily due to an increase in catastrophic loss activity. The large 2011 catastrophic events contributed 45.2 points to the combined ratio in 2011. In comparison, the Non-life combined ratio included 13.9 points for the year ended December 31, 2010 related to the Chile Earthquake, 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, the explosion and subsequent sinking of the Deepwater Horizon Drilling Platform (Deepwater Horizon) and an aggregate contract covering losses in Australia and New Zealand (collectively, 2010 catastrophic and large loss events).

The increase in the Non-life combined ratio of 13.2 points to 95.0% in 2010 from 81.8% in 2009 was primarily due to 13.9 points related to the 2010 catastrophic and large loss events, compared to no large catastrophic loss activity in 2009.

Comment on Non-GAAP Measures

Throughout this filing, the Company s results of operations have been presented in the way that Management believes will be the most meaningful and useful to investors, analysts, rating agencies and others who use financial information in evaluating the performance of the Company. This presentation includes the use of operating earnings or loss and Operating ROE that are not calculated under standards or rules that comprise U.S. GAAP. These measures are referred to as non-GAAP financial measures within the meaning of Regulation G. Management believes that these non-GAAP financial measures are important to investors, analysts, rating agencies and others who use the Company s financial information and will help provide a consistent basis for comparison between years and for comparison with the Company s peer group, although non-GAAP measures may be defined or calculated differently by other companies. Investors should consider these non-GAAP measures in addition to, and not as a substitute for, measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of these measures to the most comparable U.S. GAAP financial measures, net income or loss and return on beginning common shareholders equity calculated with net income or loss available to common shareholders, is presented above.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company s Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The following presents a discussion of those accounting policies and estimates that Management believes are the most critical to its operations and require the most difficult, subjective and complex judgment. If actual events differ significantly from the underlying assumptions and estimates used by Management, there could be material adjustments to prior estimates that could potentially adversely affect the Company s results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. These critical accounting policies and estimates should be read in conjunction with the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, including Note 2, Significant Accounting Policies, for a full understanding of the Company s accounting policies. The sensitivity estimates that follow are based on outcomes that the Company considers reasonably likely to occur.

Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits

Losses and Loss Expenses

Because a significant amount of time can elapse between the assumption of risk, occurrence of a loss event, the reporting of the event to an insurance company (the primary company or the cedant), the subsequent reporting to the reinsurance company (the reinsurer) and the ultimate payment of the claim on the loss event by

57

the reinsurer, the Company s liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses (loss reserves) is based largely upon estimates. The Company categorizes loss reserves into three types of reserves: reported outstanding loss reserves (case reserves), additional case reserves (ACRs) and incurred but not reported (IBNR) reserves. The Company updates its estimates for each of the aforementioned categories on a quarterly basis using information received from its cedants. Case reserves represent unpaid losses reported by the Company s cedants and recorded by the Company. ACRs are established for particular circumstances where, on the basis of individual loss reports, the Company estimates that the particular loss or collection of losses covered by a treaty may be greater than those advised by the cedant. IBNR reserves represent a provision for claims that have been incurred but not yet reported to the Company, as well as future loss development on losses already reported, in excess of the case reserves and ACRs. Unlike case reserves and ACRs, IBNR reserves are often calculated at an aggregated level and cannot usually be directly identified as reserves for a particular loss or treaty. The Company also estimates the future unallocated loss adjustment expenses (ULAE) associated with the loss reserves and these form part of the Company s loss adjustment expense reserves. The Company s Non-life loss reserves for each category, line and sub-segment are reported in the tables included later in this section.

The amount of time that elapses before a claim is reported to the cedant and then subsequently reported to the reinsurer is commonly referred to in the industry as the reporting tail. Lines of business for which claims are reported quickly are commonly referred to as short-tail lines; and lines of business for which a longer period of time elapses before claims are reported to the reinsurer are commonly referred to as long-tail lines. In general, for reinsurance, the time lags are longer than for primary business due to the delay that occurs between the cedant becoming aware of a loss and reporting the information to its reinsurer(s). The delay varies by reinsurance market (country of cedant), type of treaty, whether losses are first paid by the cedant and the size of the loss. The delay could vary from a few weeks to a year or sometimes longer. The Company considers agriculture, catastrophe, energy, property, motor business written in the U.S., proportional motor business written outside of the U.S., specialty property and structured risk to be short-tail lines; aviation/space, credit/surety, engineering, marine and multiline to be medium-tail lines; and casualty, non-proportional motor business written outside of the U.S. and specialty casualty to be long-tail lines of business. For all lines, the Company s objective is to estimate ultimate losses and loss expenses. Total loss reserves are then calculated by subtracting losses paid. Similarly, IBNR reserves are calculated by subtraction of case reserves and ACRs from total loss reserves.

The Company analyzes its ultimate losses and loss expenses after consideration of the loss experience of various reserving cells. The Company assigns treaties to reserving cells and allocates losses from the treaty to the reserving cell. The reserving cells are selected in order to ensure that the underlying treaties have homogeneous loss development characteristics (e.g., reporting tail) but are large enough to make estimation of trends credible. The selection of reserving cells is reviewed annually and changes over time as the business of the Company evolves. For each reserving cell, the Company tabulates losses in reserving triangles that show the total reported or paid claims at each financial year end by underwriting year cohort. An underwriting year is the year during which the reinsurance treaty was entered into as opposed to the year in which the loss occurred (accident year), or the calendar year for which financial results are reported. For each reserving cell, the Company s estimates of loss reserves are reached after a review of the results of several commonly accepted actuarial projection methodologies. In selecting its best estimate, the Company considers the appropriateness of each methodology to the individual circumstances of the reserving cell and underwriting year for which the projection is made. The methodologies that the Company employs include, but may not be limited to, paid and reported Chain Ladder methods, Expected Loss Ratio method, paid and reported Bornhuetter-Ferguson (B-F) methods, and paid and reported Benktander methods. In addition, the Company uses other methodologies to estimate liabilities for specific types of claims. For example, internal and vendor catastrophe models are typically used in the estimation of loss and loss expenses at the early stages of catastrophe losses before loss information is reported to the reinsurer. In the case of asbestos and environmental claims, the Company has established reserves for future losses and allocated loss expenses based on the resu

58

The reserve methodologies employed by the Company are dependent on data that the Company collects. This data consists primarily of loss amounts and loss payments reported by the Company s cedants, and premiums written and earned reported by cedants or estimated by the Company. The actuarial methods used by the Company to project loss reserves that it will pay in the future (future liabilities) do not generally include methodologies that are dependent on claim counts reported, claim counts settled or claim counts open as, due to the nature of the Company s business, this information is not routinely provided by cedants for every treaty.

A brief description of the reserving methods commonly employed by the Company and a discussion of their particular advantages and disadvantages follows:

Chain Ladder (CL) Development Methods (Reported or Paid)

These methods use the underlying assumption that losses reported (paid) for each underwriting year at a particular development stage follow a stable pattern. For example, the CL development method assumes that on average, every underwriting year will display the same percentage of ultimate liabilities reported by the Company s cedants (say x%) at 24 months after the inception of the underwriting year. The percentages reported (paid) are established for each development stage (e.g., at 12 months, 24 months, etc.) after examining historical averages from the loss development data. These are sometimes supplemented by external benchmark information. Ultimate liabilities are estimated by multiplying the actual reported (paid) losses by the reciprocal of the assumed reported (paid) percentage (e.g., 1/x%). Reserves are then calculated by subtracting paid claims from the estimated ultimate liabilities.

The main strengths of the method are that it is reactive to loss emergence (payments) and that it makes full use of historical experience on claim emergence (payments). For homogeneous low volatility lines, under stable economic conditions the method can often produce good estimates of ultimate liabilities and reserves. However, the method has weaknesses when the underlying assumption of stable patterns is not true. This may be the consequence of changes in the mix of business, changes in claim inflation trends, changes in claim reporting practices or the presence of large claims, among other things. Furthermore, the method tends to produce volatile estimates of ultimate liabilities in situations where there is volatility in reported (paid) patterns. In particular, when the expected percentage reported (paid) is low, small deviations between actual and expected claims can lead to very volatile estimates of ultimate liabilities and reserves. Consequently, this method is often unsuitable for projections at early development stages of an underwriting year. Finally, the method fails to incorporate any information regarding market conditions, pricing, etc., which could improve the estimate of liabilities and reserves. It therefore tends not to perform very well in situations where there are rapidly changing market conditions.

Expected Loss Ratio (ELR) Method

This method estimates ultimate losses for an underwriting year by applying an estimated loss ratio to the earned premium for that underwriting year. Although the method is insensitive to actual reported or paid losses, it can often be useful at the early stages of development when very few losses have been reported or paid, and the principal sources of information available to the Company consist of information obtained during pricing and qualitative information supplied by the cedant. However, the lack of sensitivity to reported or paid losses means that the method is usually inappropriate at later stages of development.

Bornhuetter-Ferguson (B-F) Methods (Reported or Paid)

These methods aim to address the concerns of the Chain Ladder Development methods, which are the variability at early stages of development and the failure to incorporate external information such as pricing. However, the B-F methods are more sensitive to reported and paid losses than the Expected Loss Ratio method, and can be seen as a blend of the Expected Loss Ratio and Chain Ladder development methods. Unreported (unpaid) claims are calculated using an expected reporting (payment) pattern and an externally determined

59

estimate of ultimate liabilities (usually determined by multiplying an *a priori* loss ratio with estimates of premium volume). The accuracy of the *a priori* loss ratio is a critical assumption in this method. Usually *a priori* loss ratios are initially determined on the basis of pricing information, but may also be adjusted to reflect other information that subsequently emerges about underlying loss experience.

Although the method tends to provide less volatile indications at early stages of development and reflects changes in the external environment, this method can be slow to react to emerging loss development (payment). In particular, to the extent that the *a priori* loss ratios prove to be inaccurate (and are not revised), the B-F methods will produce loss estimates that take longer to converge with the final settlement value of loss liabilities.

Benktander (B-K) Methods (Reported or Paid)

These methods can be viewed as a blend between the Chain Ladder Development and the B-F methods described above. The blend is based on predetermined weights at each development stage that depend on the reported (paid) development patterns.

Although mitigated to some extent, this method still exhibits the same advantages and disadvantages as the B-F method, but the mechanics of the calculation imply that it is more reactive to loss emergence (payment) than the B-F method.

Method Weights

In determining the loss reserves, the Company often relies on a blend of the results from two or more methods (e.g., weighted averages). The judgment as to which of the above method(s) is most appropriate for a particular underwriting year and reserving cell could change over time as new information emerges regarding underlying loss activity and other data issues. Furthermore, as each line is typically composed of several reserving cells, it is likely that the reserves for the line will be dependent on several reserving methods. This is because reserves for a line are the result of aggregating the reserves for each constituent reserving cell and that a different method could be selected for each reserving cell. Although it is not appropriate to refer to reserves for a line as being determined by a particular method, the table below summarizes the methods that were given principal weight in selecting the best estimates of reserves in each reserving line and can therefore be viewed as key drivers of selected reserves. The table distinguishes methods for mature and immature underwriting years, as they are often different. The definition of maturity is specific to a line and is related to the reporting tail. If at the reserve evaluation date, a significant proportion of losses for the underwriting year are expected to have been reported, then the underwriting year is deemed to be mature, otherwise it is deemed to be immature. For short-tail lines, such as property or agriculture, immature years can refer to the one or two most recent underwriting years, while for longer tail lines, such as casualty, immature years can refer to the three or four most recent underwriting years. To the extent that the principal reserving methods used for major components of a reserving line are different, these are separately identified in the table below.

60

Reserving line for Non-life Segment	Non-life Sub-segment	Immature Underwriting Years	Mature Underwriting Years
Agriculture	North America and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F / Reported CL
Aviation / Space	Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F / Reported CL
Casualty	North America	Expected Loss Ratio	Reported B-F
Casualty / Specialty Casualty	Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F
Catastrophe	Catastrophe	Expected Loss Ratio based on exposure analysis	Reported B-F
Credit / Surety	North America and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F / Reported B-K
Energy Onshore	Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio /	Reported CL / Reported B-F
		Reported B-F / Reported B-K	
Engineering	Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F / Reported CL
Marine / Energy Offshore	Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Reported B-F / Expected Loss Ratio	Reported B-F
Motor	North America	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F
Motor Non-proportional	Global (Non-U.S.) P&C	Expected Loss Ratio	Reported B-F
Motor Proportional	Global (Non-U.S.) P&C	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F
Multiline	North America	Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	Reported B-F
Property	North America	Reported B-F / Expected Loss Ratio	Reported B-F
Property / Specialty Property	Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Reported B-K /	Reported CL
		Expected Loss Ratio / Reported B-F	
Other	North America, Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	Periodic actuarial studies	Periodic actuarial studies

61

The reserving methods used by the Company are dependent on a number of key parameter assumptions. The principal parameter assumptions underlying the methods used by the Company are:

- (i) the loss development factors used to form an expectation of the evolution of reported and paid claims for several years following the inception of the underwriting year. These are often derived by examining the Company s data after due consideration of the underlying factors listed below. In some cases, where the Company lacks sufficient volume to have statistical credibility, external benchmarks are used to supplement the Company s data;
- (ii) the tail factors used to reflect development of paid and reported losses after several years have elapsed since the inception of the underwriting year;
- (iii) the *a priori* loss ratios used as inputs in the B-F methods; and
- (iv) the selected loss ratios used as inputs in the Expected Loss Ratio method.

The validity of all parameter assumptions used in the reserving process is reaffirmed on a quarterly basis. Reaffirmation of the parameter assumptions means that the actuaries determine that the parameter assumptions continue to form a sound basis for projection of future liabilities. Parameter assumptions used in projecting future liabilities are themselves estimates based on historical information. As new information becomes available (e.g., additional losses reported), the Company s actuaries determine whether a revised estimate of the parameter assumptions that reflects all available information is consistent with the previous parameter assumptions employed. In general, to the extent that the revised estimate of the parameter assumptions are within a close range of the original assumptions, the Company determines that the parameter assumptions employed continue to form an appropriate basis for projections and continue to use the original assumptions in its models. In this case, any differences could be attributed to the imprecise nature of the parameter estimation process. However, to the extent that the deviations between the two sets of estimates are not within a close range of the original assumptions, the Company reacts by adopting the revised assumptions as a basis for its reserve models. Notwithstanding the above, even where the Company has experienced no material deviations from its original assumptions during any quarter, the Company will generally revise the reserving parameter assumptions at least once a year to reflect all accumulated available information.

In addition to examining the data, the selection of the parameter assumptions is dependent on several underlying factors. The Company s actuaries review these underlying factors and determine the extent to which these are likely to be stable over the time frame during which losses are projected, and the extent to which these factors are consistent with the Company s data. If these factors are determined to be stable and consistent with the data, the estimation of the reserving parameter assumptions are mainly carried out using actuarial and statistical techniques applied to the Company s data. To the extent that the actuaries determine that they cannot continue to rely on the stability of these factors, the statistical estimates of parameter assumptions are modified to reflect the direction of the change. The main underlying factors upon which the estimates of reserving parameters are predicated are:

- (i) the cedant s business practices will proceed as in the past with no material changes either in submission of accounts or cash flows;
- (ii) any internal delays in processing accounts received by the cedant are not materially different from that experienced historically, and hence the implicit reserving allowance made in loss reserves through the methods continues to be appropriate;
- (iii) case reserve reporting practices, particularly the methodologies used to establish and report case reserves, are unchanged from historical practices;
- (iv) the Company s internal claim practices, particularly the level and extent of use of ACRs are unchanged;

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

(v) historical levels of claim inflation can be projected into the future and will have no material effect on either the acceleration or deceleration of claim reporting and payment patterns;

62

Total net Non-life prior year favorable reserve development

- (vi) the selection of reserving cells results in homogeneous and credible future expectations for all business in the cell and any changes in underlying treaty terms are either reflected in cell selection or explicitly allowed in the selection of trends;
- (vii) in cases where benchmarks are used, they are derived from the experience of similar business; and
- (viii) the Company can form a credible initial expectation of the ultimate loss ratio of recent underwriting years through a review of pricing information, supplemented by qualitative information on market events.

The Company s best estimate of total loss reserves is typically in excess of the midpoint of the actuarial ultimate liability estimate. The Company believes that there is potentially significant risk in estimating loss reserves for long-tail lines of business and for immature underwriting years that may not be adequately captured through traditional actuarial projection methodologies as these methodologies usually rely heavily on projections of prior year trends into the future. In selecting its best estimate of future liabilities, the Company considers both the results of actuarial point estimates of loss reserves as well as the potential variability of these estimates as captured by a reasonable range of actuarial liability estimates. The selected best estimates of reserves are always within the reasonable range of estimates indicated by the Company s actuaries. In determining the appropriate best estimate, the Company reviews (i) the position of overall reserves within the actuarial reserve range, (ii) the result of bottom up analysis by underwriting year reflecting the impact of parameter uncertainty in actuarial calculations, and (iii) specific qualitative information on events that may have an effect on future claims but which may not have been adequately reflected in actuarial estimates, such as potential for outstanding litigation, claims practices of cedants, etc.

During 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company reviewed its estimate for prior year losses for the Non-life segment and, in light of developing data, adjusted its ultimate loss ratios for prior accident years. The following table summarizes the net prior year favorable reserve development for each sub-segment of the Company s Non-life segment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Net Non-life prior year favorable reserve development:			
North America	\$ 189	\$ 165	\$ 177
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C	116	98	152
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty	129	171	108
Catastrophe	96	44	49

The net Non-life prior year favorable reserve development for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was driven by the following factors (in millions of U.S. dollars):

\$ 530

\$ 478

	2011	2010	2009
Net Non-life prior year (adverse) favorable reserve development:			
Net prior year reserve development due to changes in premiums (1)	\$ (59)	\$ (7)	\$ 9
Net prior year reserve development due to all other factors (2)	589	485	477
Total net Non-life prior year favorable reserve development	\$ 530	\$ 478	\$ 486

- (1) Net prior year reserve development due to changes in premiums includes, but it is not limited to, the impact to prior years reserves associated with (increases) decreases in the estimated or actual premium exposure reported by cedants.
- (2) Net prior year reserve development due to all other factors includes, but is not limited to, loss experience, changes in assumptions and changes in methodology.

For a discussion of net prior year favorable reserve development by Non-life sub-segment, see Results by Segment below and Note 9 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report.

63

The table below summarizes the net prior year favorable (adverse) reserve development for the year ended December 31, 2011 by reserving line for the Company s Non-life segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Reserving lines	(adv prior res	vorable verse) r year erve opment
Agriculture	\$	17
Aviation / Space		50
Casualty / Specialty Casualty		172
Catastrophe		96
Credit / Surety		48
Energy Onshore		(11)
Engineering		(2)
Marine / Energy Offshore		23
Motor Non-U.S. Non-proportional business		54
Motor Non-U.S. Proportional business		3
Motor North America business		(2)
Multiline		21
Property / Specialty Property		59
Other		2
Total net Non-life prior year favorable reserve development	\$	530

The following paragraphs discuss how losses paid and reported during the year ended December 31, 2011 compared with the Company s expectations, and how the Company modified its reserving parameter assumptions in line with the emerging development in each reserving line.

Agriculture: Aggregate losses reported during the year for North America business were below the Company s expectations, and primarily related to the 2010 underwriting year, while Global (Non-U.S.) business was in line with expectations. The Company lowered its loss ratio picks, but did not otherwise materially alter its reserving assumptions.

Aviation / Space: The overall losses reported during the year were significantly lower than the Company s expectations. The Company reflected this experience by selecting lower loss ratios for underwriting years 2008 to 2010.

Casualty / Specialty Casualty: Aggregate losses reported for North America casualty lines have been significantly lower than expected, predominantly for underwriting years 2003-2007. The Company reflected this favorable experience partially by giving more weight to loss experience based actuarial indications that resulted in lower loss ratio picks for those underwriting years. In addition, actual development of claims relating to the financial crisis of 2008-2009 has been less than expected and ultimate loss estimates have reduced as a result. For Global (Non-U.S.) lines, overall reported losses were lower than expected for underwriting years 2003-2008 for business in both Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segments. The Company reflected this experience by reducing the loss ratio selections as well as changing in the initial expected loss ratio and loss development tail factor assumptions.

Catastrophe: Reserves established for the catastrophe line are primarily a function of the presence or absence of catastrophic events during the year, and the complexity and uncertainty associated with estimating unpaid losses from these large disclosed events. In addition, reserves are established in consideration of mid-sized and attritional loss events that occur during a year. Approximately half the reduction in prior year reserves is a result of catastrophic and mid-sized losses developing better than expected and the remainder of the reduction resulted from lower than expected development of attritional losses.

Credit / Surety: Aggregate losses reported during the year were higher than expected for North America business due to an individual loss reported impacting the 1998 and 1999 underwriting years. For Global (Non-U.S.) business, loss development was significantly better than expected, primarily for the underwriting year 2009, which was impacted by the financial crisis. The Company reduced the loss ratios for most prior underwriting years reflecting the fact that loss emergence was lower than expected.

Energy Onshore: Aggregate reported losses were higher than expected during the year, which was driven by increases in premium exposure for various underwriting years, primarily for the underwriting year 2010. The Company did not materially change its reserving assumptions for this line

Engineering: Aggregate reported losses were modestly higher than expected losses for the year, which was driven by increases in premium exposure for various underwriting years. The Company did not materially change its reserving assumptions for this line.

Marine/Energy Offshore: Aggregate reported losses during the year were lower than expected. The Company reacted to the favorable experience by reducing loss ratios for the 2007- 2009 underwriting years.

Motor:

Aggregate losses reported for North American motor line were modestly higher than expected for the 2008 -2010 underwriting years. The Company selected higher loss ratios reflecting this development for those specific years.

Aggregate losses reported for the Global (Non-U.S.) motor non-proportional line were significantly lower than expectations in most countries resulting in the Company lowering its loss development tail factor assumptions in addition to reflecting the experience within their loss ratio picks.

Aggregate losses reported for the Global (Non-U.S.) motor proportional line were modestly lower than expected resulting in the Company lowering its loss development tail factor assumptions in addition to reflecting the experience within their loss ratio picks.

Multiline: Reported losses were lower than expected for most underwriting years. In addition to selecting lower loss ratios due to the reported loss development, the Company also reflected this experience through the updating of loss development factors for this line.

Property / Specialty Property: Aggregate losses reported for North America and Global (Non-U.S.) property lines were lower than expected for most years. The Company reflected this experience by decreasing its loss ratios for the most recent underwriting years.

65

As an example of the sensitivity of the Company s reserves to reserving parameter assumptions, the tables below summarize, by reserving line, the effect on the Company s reserves of higher/lower *a priori* loss ratio selections, higher/lower loss development factors and higher/lower tail factors. The Company believes that the illustrated sensitivities to the reserving parameter assumptions are indicative of the potential variability inherent in the estimation process of those parameters.

Reserving lines selected assumptions	Higher a priori loss ratios	Higher loss development factors	Higher tail factors	Lower <i>a priori</i> loss ratios	Lower loss development factors	Lower tail factors
Agriculture	5 points	3 months	2%	(5) points	(3) months	(2)%
Aviation / Space	5	3	5	(5)	(3)	(5)
Casualty / Specialty Casualty	10	6	10	(10)	(6)	(10)
Catastrophe	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)
Credit / Surety	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)
Energy Onshore	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)
Engineering	10	6	5	(10)	(6)	(5)
Marine / Energy Offshore	5	3	5	(5)	(3)	(5)
Motor Non-U.S. Non-proportional business	10	12	10	(10)	(12)	(10)
Motor Non-U.S. Proportional business	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)
Motor North America business	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)
Multiline	5	6	5	(5)	(6)	(5)
Property / Specialty Property	5	3	2	(5)	(3)	(2)

Reserving lines selected sensitivity (in millions of U.S. dollars)	Higher <i>a priori</i> loss ratios	Higher loss development factors	Higher tail factors	Lower <i>a priori</i> loss ratios	Lower loss development factors	Lower tail factors
Agriculture	\$ 20	\$ 10	\$	\$ (20)	\$	\$
Aviation / Space	10	20	10	(10)	(10)	(5)
Casualty / Specialty Casualty	310	150	215	(305)	(90)	(205)
Catastrophe	10	5		(10)		
Credit / Surety	40	20	5	(40)	(10)	(5)
Energy Onshore	10	20		(10)	(15)	
Engineering	35	50	40	(35)	(30)	(30)
Marine / Energy Offshore	25	25	5	(25)	(15)	
Motor Non-U.S. Non-proportional business	40	30	45	(40)	(30)	(55)
Motor Non-U.S. Proportional business	10	10	5	(10)		(5)
Motor North America business	10	10	5	(10)	(5)	(5)
Multiline	10	15	30	(10)	(10)	(20)
Property / Specialty Property	50	100	5	(50)	(40)	(10)

⁽¹⁾ Tail factors are defined as aggregate development factors after 10 years from the inception of an underwriting year.

Some reserving lines show little sensitivity to a priori loss ratio, loss development factor or tail factor as the Company may use reserving methods such as the Expected Loss Ratio method in several of its reserving cells within those lines. It is not appropriate to sum the total impact for a specific factor or the total impact for a specific reserving line as the lines of business are not perfectly correlated.

The following table shows the gross reserves reported by cedants (case reserves), those estimated by the Company (ACRs and IBNR reserves) and the total gross, ceded and net loss reserves recorded at December 31, 2011 by reserving line for the Company s Non-life operations (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Describeding	C		A CD-	IBNR	loss	tal gross s reserves	 led loss	loss	reserves
Reserving lines		reserves	ACRs	reserves		ecorded	serves		corded
Agriculture	\$	15	\$	\$ 219	\$	234	\$	\$	234
Aviation / Space		263	2	180		445	(46)		399
Casualty / Specialty Casualty		1,530	110	2,572		4,212	(30)		4,182
Catastrophe		688	317	427		1,432	(81)		1,351
Credit / Surety		258	4	169		431			431
Energy Onshore		133	4	82		219	(5)		214
Engineering		282	1	172		455	(15)		440
Marine / Energy Offshore		397	18	390		805	(160)		645
Motor Non-U.S. Non-proportional business		477	2	378		857	(2)		855
Motor Non-U.S. Proportional business		99		78		177	(7)		170
Motor North America business		110	4	140		254			254
Multiline		81	17	118		216			216
Property / Specialty Property		855	17	638		1,510	(7)		1,503
Other				26		26			26
Total Non-life reserves	\$	5,188	\$ 496	\$ 5,589	\$	11,273	\$ (353)	\$	10,920

The net loss reserves represent the Company s best estimate of future losses and loss expense amounts based on the information available at December 31, 2011. Loss reserves rely upon estimates involving actuarial and statistical projections at a given time that reflect the Company s expectations of the costs of the ultimate settlement and administration of claims. Estimates of ultimate liabilities are contingent on many future events and the eventual outcome of these events may be different from the assumptions underlying the reserve estimates. In the event that the business environment and social trends diverge from historical trends, the Company may have to adjust its loss reserves to amounts falling significantly outside its current estimate. These estimates are continually reviewed and the ultimate liability may be in excess of, or less than, the amounts provided, for which any adjustments will be reflected in the period in which the need for an adjustment is determined.

The Company s best estimates are point estimates within a reasonable range of actuarial liability estimates. These ranges are developed using stochastic simulations and techniques and provide an indication as to the degree of variability of the loss reserves. The Company interprets the ranges produced by these techniques as confidence intervals around the point estimates for each Non-life sub-segment. However, due to the inherent volatility in the business written by the Company, there can be no assurance that the final settlement of the loss reserves will fall within these ranges.

The point estimates related to net loss reserves recorded by the Company, and the range of actuarial estimates at December 31, 2011 and 2010, were as follows for each sub-segment of the Non-life segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	Recorded Point			
	E	stimate	High	Low
2011 Net Non-life sub-segment loss reserves:				
North America	\$	3,265	\$ 3,427	\$ 2,620
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C		2,614	2,747	2,287
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty		3,690	3,910	3,207
Catastrophe		1,351	1,392	1,212
2010 Net Non-life sub-segment loss reserves:				
North America	\$	3,173	\$ 3,390	\$ 2,506
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C		2,693	2,937	2,332
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty		3,609	3,764	3,207
Catastrophe		843	889	795

It is not appropriate to add together the ranges of each sub-segment in an effort to determine a high and low range around the Company s total Non-life carried loss reserves.

Of the Company s \$10,920 million of net Non-life loss reserves at December 31, 2011, net loss reserves for accident years 2005 and prior of \$1,012 million are guaranteed by Colisée Re, pursuant to the Reserve Agreement. The Company is not subject to any loss reserve variability associated with the guaranteed reserves. See Business Reserves in Item 1 of Part I of this report.

In 2011, the Company was exposed to a high frequency of large catastrophic events on a worldwide basis. The events that had a material impact on the Company were the Japan Earthquake, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, the Thailand Floods, the U.S. tornadoes and the Australian Floods (the 2011 catastrophic events). Reserves were established for each of these events after the consideration of catastrophe model output, industry loss experience, cedant advices, contract by contract analysis of the Company s exposure, actual claims development, on site claims audits performed by the Company, developments relating to legal and contractual liability, and management judgment concerning the complexity and uncertainties in estimating the ultimate losses given the nature and number of events.

Given the number and complex nature of the 2011 catastrophic events, a significant amount of judgment was used to estimate the range of potential losses from these events and there remains a considerable degree of uncertainty related to the range of possible ultimate liabilities. These risks and uncertainties include the ongoing cedant and industry revisions of various magnitudes for each of these events, the inability to access certain areas and zones affected by these events to reliably assess claims information, the continuing uncertainty regarding government regulations with respect to the standards of rebuilding in certain affected areas, the degree to which inflation impacts material required to rebuild affected properties, the characteristics of the Company s program participation for certain affected cedants and potentially affected cedants, and the expected length of the claims settlement period for these events. In addition, there is additional complexity related to the 2011 and 2010 New Zealand Earthquakes given multiple earthquakes have occurred in the same region in a relatively short time period, resulting in cedants revising their allocation of losses between various treaties, under which the Company may provide different amounts of coverage.

Loss estimates arising from earthquakes are inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events. The Company s actual losses from the 2010 and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes may materially exceed the estimated losses as a result of, among other things, an increase in industry insured loss estimates, the expected lengthy claims development period, in particular for earthquake related losses, and the receipt of additional information from cedants, brokers and loss adjusters. In addition, the Company s loss estimate related to the Japan Earthquake is inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events

given the characteristics of the Company s reinsurance portfolio in the region. Further, changes in loss assumptions for specific cedants may have a material impact on the Company s loss estimate related to this event given a significant portion of the losses are concentrated with a few large cedants. The Company believes there remains a high degree of uncertainty related to its loss estimates related to the 2010 and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes and the Japan Earthquake, and the ultimate losses arising from these events may be materially in excess of, or less than, the amounts provided for in the Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011.

Based upon information currently available and the estimated range of potential ultimate liabilities, the Company believes that unpaid loss and loss expense reserves contemplate a reasonable provision for exposure related to the 2011 catastrophic events. In addition to the sum of the point estimates recorded for each of the 2011 catastrophic events, the Company has recorded additional gross reserves of \$50 million (net reserves of \$48 million after the impact of retrocession), specifically related to the 2011 catastrophic events within its Catastrophe sub-segment. The additional gross reserves recorded are in consideration of the number of events, the complexity of certain events and the continuing uncertainties in estimating the ultimate losses for these events in the aggregate, as discussed in the preceding paragraphs.

The Company will continue to evaluate the additional gross reserves that have been recorded at December 31, 2011 as part of its future periodic reserving process. Any changes to the amounts recorded will be based on updated or new information and Management s assessment of remaining uncertainty related to the specific factors regarding the 2011 catastrophic events given any new or updated information. Changes to the amounts recorded may either result in: i) the reallocation of some or all of the additional reserves to one or more of the 2011 catastrophic events; or ii) the release of some or all of the additional reserves to net income in future periods.

Included in the business that is considered to have a long reporting tail is the Company s exposure to asbestos and environmental claims. The Company s net reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses at December 31, 2011 included \$195 million that represents estimates of its net ultimate liability for asbestos and environmental claims. The gross liability for such claims at December 31, 2011 was \$203 million, which primarily relates to Paris Re s gross liability for asbestos and environmental claims for accident years 2005 and prior of \$127 million, with any favorable or adverse development being subject to the Reserve Agreement. Of the remaining \$76 million in gross reserves, the majority relates to casualty exposures in the United States arising from business written by PartnerRe SA and PartnerRe U.S.

Ultimate loss estimates for such claims cannot be estimated using traditional reserving techniques and there are significant uncertainties in estimating the amount of the Company's potential losses for these claims. In view of the legal and tort environment that affect the development of such claims, the uncertainties inherent in estimating asbestos and environmental claims are not likely to be resolved in the near future. There can be no assurance that the reserves established by the Company will not be adversely affected by development of other latent exposures, and further, there can be no assurance that the reserves established by the Company will be adequate. The Company does, however, actively evaluate potential exposure to asbestos and environmental claims and establishes additional reserves as appropriate. The Company believes that it has made a reasonable provision for these exposures and is unaware of any specific issues that would materially affect its unpaid losses and loss expense reserves related to this exposure (see Note 9 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

Life Policy Benefits

Policy benefits for life and annuity contracts relate to the business in the Company s Life segment, which predominately includes reinsurance of longevity, subdivided into standard and non-standard annuities, and mortality business, which includes death and disability covers (with various riders) primarily written in Continental Europe, TCI primarily written in the U.K. and Ireland, and GMDB business primarily written in Continental Europe.

69

The Company categorizes life reserves into three types of reserves: reported outstanding loss reserves (case reserves), incurred but not reported (IBNR) reserves and reserves for future policy benefits. Case reserves represent unpaid losses reported by the Company s cedants and recorded by the Company. IBNR reserves represent a provision for claims that have been incurred but not yet reported to the Company, as well as future loss development on losses already reported, in excess of the case reserves. Reserves for future policy benefits, which relate to future events occurring on policies in force over an extended period of time, are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid, reduced by the present value of future expected premiums. Such liabilities are established based on methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with U.S. GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of reserves for future policy benefits have been determined based upon information reported by ceding companies, supplemented by the Company s actuarial estimates of mortality, critical illness, persistency and future investment income, with appropriate provision to reflect uncertainty. Case reserves, IBNR reserves and reserves for future policy benefits are generally calculated at the treaty level. The Company updates its estimates for each of the aforementioned categories on a periodic basis using information received from its cedants.

The Company s reserving practices begin with the categorization of the contracts written as short duration, long duration, or universal life business for U.S. GAAP reserving purposes. This categorization determines the Company s reserving methodology which is described by line of business below.

Longevity

The reserves for the annuity portfolio of reinsurance contracts within the longevity book are established in accordance with the provisions for long duration insurance contracts under U.S. GAAP. Many of these contracts subject the Company to risks arising from policyholder mortality over a period that extends beyond the periods in which premiums are collected. For long duration contracts, the Company establishes initial reserves based upon Management s best estimate of policy benefits and includes a provision for adverse deviation. Management s best estimate relies upon actuarial indications of future policy benefits. The provision for adverse deviation contemplates reasonable deviations from the best estimate assumptions for the key risk elements relevant to the product being evaluated, including mortality, critical illness, persistency, expenses, and discount rate among others, and are recorded in accordance with U.S. GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. The Company s actuaries annually verify the current reserving assumptions in consideration of evolving experience and the actuarial indications for assumptions relating to future policy benefits, including mortality, critical illness, persistency, and future investment income, among others. Management makes no adjustments to recorded deferred acquisition costs or future policy benefits if the actuarial indications conclude that current recorded U.S. GAAP policy benefits are adequate. The Company establishes a premium deficiency reserve, or an increase to future policy benefits to the extent that deferred acquisition costs are insufficient to cover the premium deficiency reserve, if the actuarial indication of life policy benefits is greater than current recorded aggregate amounts for policy benefits, settlement costs, and deferred acquisition costs.

For standard annuities, the main risk is a faster increase in future life span than expected in the medium to long term. Non-standard annuities are annuities sold to people with aggravated health conditions and are usually medically underwritten on an individual basis and the main risk is the inadequate assessment of the future life span of the insured.

Mortality

The reserves for the short-term mortality business are established in accordance with the provisions for short duration insurance contracts under U.S. GAAP. They consist of case reserves and IBNR, calculated at the treaty level based upon cedant information. The Company s reserving methodology includes a quarterly review of actual experience against expected experience and the use of the Expected Loss Ratio method described in Losses and Loss Expenses above. Given the very short-term loss development of this portion of the portfolio, this method is considered appropriate.

70

The reserves for the long-term traditional mortality and TCI reinsurance portfolio are established in accordance with the provisions for long duration insurance contracts under U.S. GAAP and follow the reserving methodology discussed under the Longevity section above.

The reserves for the guaranteed minimum death benefits (GMDB) reinsurance business are established in accordance with the provisions for universal life contracts under U.S. GAAP. Key actuarial assumptions for this business are mortality, lapses, interest rates, expected returns on cash and bonds and stock market performance. For the last parameter, a stochastic option pricing approach is used and the benefits used in calculating the liabilities are based on the average benefits payable over a range of scenarios. The assumptions of investment performance and volatility are consistent with expected future experience of the respective underlying funds available for policyholder investment options. Recorded reserves for GMDB reflect Management s best estimate which relies upon the quarterly actuarial indications.

The following table provides the Company s gross and net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts by reserving line at December 31, 2011 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Reserving lines	Case	reserves	BNR serves	futur	rves for e policy nefits	re	tal gross Life eserves corded	 ded erves	re	otal net Life eserves corded
Mortality	\$	188	\$ 474	\$	461	\$	1,123	\$ (5)	\$	1,118
Longevity		1	78		444		523	(5)		518
Total policy benefits for life and annuity contracts	\$	189	\$ 552	\$	905	\$	1,646	\$ (10)	\$	1,636

Total gross policy benefits for life and annuity contracts include provisions for adverse deviation of \$108 million and \$85 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The increase in the provisions for adverse deviation is a result of new business written in the longevity line.

As an example of the sensitivity of the Company s policy benefits for life and annuity contracts to reserving parameter assumptions, the table below summarizes, by reserving line, the effect of different assumption selections.

Reserving lines	Factors	Change	Life (in n	ct on total reserves nillions of dollars)
Longevity				
Non-standard annuities	Life expectancy	+ 1 year	\$	34
Standard annuities	Mortality improvements per annum	1%		177
Mortality				
Long-term and TCI	Mortality	1%		30
GMDB	Stock market performance	-10%		6

The sensitivity of a 1% per annum improvement in mortality rates related to standard annuities in the longevity line has increased from \$122 million in 2010 to \$177 million in 2011 due to a significant mortality swap written in the longevity line in 2011.

It is not appropriate to sum the total impact for a specific reserving line or the total impact for a specific factor because the reinsurance portfolios are not perfectly correlated.

Premiums and Acquisition Costs

The Company provides proportional and non-proportional reinsurance coverage to cedants (insurance companies). In most cases, cedants seek protection for business that they have not yet written at the time they

Table of Contents 84

71

enter into reinsurance agreements and thus have to estimate the volume of premiums they will cede to the Company. Reporting delays are inherent in the reinsurance industry and vary in length by reinsurance market (country of cedant) and type of treaty. As delays can vary from a few weeks to a year or sometimes longer, the Company produces accounting estimates to report premiums and acquisition costs until it receives the cedants—actual premium reported data. Approximately, 43%, 42% and 48% of the Company—s reported net premiums written for 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, were based upon estimates.

Under proportional treaties, which represented 69% of the Company s total gross premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company shares proportionally in both the premiums and losses of the cedant and pays the cedant a commission to cover the cedant s acquisition costs. Under this type of treaty, the Company s ultimate premiums written and earned and acquisition costs are not known at the inception of the treaty. As such, reported premiums written and earned and acquisition costs on proportional treaties are generally based upon reports received from cedants and brokers, supplemented by the Company s own estimates of premiums written and acquisition costs for which ceding company reports have not been received. Premium and acquisition cost estimates are determined at the individual treaty level. The determination of premium estimates requires a review of the Company s experience with cedants, familiarity with each market, an understanding of the characteristics of each line of business and Management s assessment of the impact of various other factors on the volume of business written and ceded to the Company. Premium and acquisition cost estimates are updated as new information is received from the cedants and differences between such estimates and actual amounts are recorded in the period in which estimates are changed or the actual amounts are determined.

Under non-proportional treaties, which represented 31% of the Company s total gross premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company is typically exposed to loss events in excess of a predetermined dollar amount or loss ratio and receives a fixed or minimum premium, which is subject to upward adjustment depending on the premium volume written by the cedant. In addition, many of the non-proportional treaties include reinstatement premium provisions. Reinstatement premiums are recognized as written and earned at the time a loss event occurs, where coverage limits for the remaining life of the contract are reinstated under pre-defined contract terms. The accrual of reinstatement premiums is based on Management s estimate of losses and loss expenses associated with the loss event.

The magnitude and impact of changes in premium estimates differs for proportional and non-proportional treaties. Although proportional treaties may be subject to larger changes in premium estimates compared to non-proportional treaties, as the Company generally receives cedant statements in arrears and must estimate all premiums for periods ranging from one month to more than one year (depending on the frequency of cedant statements), the pre-tax impact is mitigated by changes in the cedant s related reported acquisition costs and losses. The impact of the change in estimate on premiums earned and pre-tax results varies depending on when the change becomes known during the risk period and the underlying profitability of the treaty. Non-proportional treaties generally include a fixed minimum premium and an adjustment premium. While the fixed minimum premiums require no estimation, adjustment premiums are estimated and could be subject to changes in estimates.

The following table shows the amounts recorded within net premiums written and earned that related to changes in prior year premium estimates reported by cedants for each Non-life sub-segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

Non-life sub-segment	Net premiums written		Net premiums written Net pr		Net premiu	ms earned
North America	\$	(50)	\$	(30)		
Global (Non-U.S.) P&C		23		20		
Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty		120		39		
Catastrophe		35		29		
•						
Total	\$	128	\$	58		

72

These increases in net premiums written and earned, after the corresponding adjustments to acquisition costs and losses and losse expenses, had no material impact on the Company s consolidated pre-tax net loss. However, as shown, these adjustments are the result of offsetting impacts in each of the Company s Non-life sub-segments for the year ended December 31, 2011.

As an example of the sensitivity of the Company s Non-life net premiums written and acquisition costs to changes in estimates, the table below summarizes the effect of different assumption selections on pre-tax net loss based on amounts recorded for the year ended December 31, 2011 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

		Impact on
		pre-tax
	Change	net loss
Net premiums written Non-life proportional treaties()	+/-5%	\$+/-8
Net premiums written Non-life non-proportional treatie ⁽²⁾	+/-5%	+/-26
Acquisition costs all Non-life treatie ^{§)}	+/-1%	+/-4

- (1) The estimate assumes that the changes in net premiums written become known at the mid-point of the risk period and is made by applying the reported technical ratio, before the impact of the 2011 catastrophic events and prior year loss reserve development, for the year ended December 31, 2011.
- (2) The estimate assumes that the changes in net premiums written become known at the mid-point of the risk period and also assume there is no change in losses and loss expenses.
- (3) The estimate relates to all of the Company s Non-life treaties (both proportional and non-proportional) and assumes that the changes become known at the mid-point of the risk period and also assumes there is no change in premium estimates.

Acquisition costs, primarily brokerage fees, commissions and excise taxes, which vary directly with, and are directly related to, the acquisition of reinsurance contracts, are capitalized and charged to expense as the related premium is earned. The recovery of deferred policy acquisition costs is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business. Deferred policy acquisition costs recoverability testing is performed periodically together with the reserve adequacy test, based on the latest best estimate assumptions by line of business.

Income Taxes

Under U.S. GAAP, a deferred tax asset or liability is to be recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributable to temporary differences and carryforwards. U.S. GAAP also establishes procedures to assess whether a valuation allowance should be established for deferred tax assets. All available evidence, both positive and negative, is considered to determine whether, based on the weight of that evidence, a valuation allowance is needed for some portion or all of a deferred tax asset. Management must use its judgment in considering the relative impact of positive and negative evidence. The Company has also established tax liabilities relating to uncertain tax positions as defined under U.S. GAAP of \$12 million at December 31, 2011 (see Notes 2(l) and 15 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

The Company has estimated the future tax effects attributed to temporary differences and has a deferred tax asset at December 31, 2011 of \$157 million, net of a valuation allowance of \$29 million. The most significant components of the deferred tax asset relate to loss reserve discounting for tax purposes.

The Company has projected future taxable income in the tax jurisdictions in which the deferred tax assets arise. These projections are based on Management's projections of premium and investment income, capital gains and losses, and technical and expense ratios. Based on these projections and an analysis of the ability to utilize loss and foreign tax credits carryforwards at the taxable entity level, Management evaluates the need for a valuation allowance. The valuation allowance of \$29 million, recorded at December 31, 2011, related to a tax loss carryforward in Singapore.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the Company has assumed that the future reversal of deferred tax liabilities will result in an increase in taxes payable in future years. Underlying this assumption is an expectation that the Company will continue to be subject to taxation in the various tax jurisdictions and that the Company will continue to generate taxable revenues in excess of deductions.

As an example of the sensitivity of the Company sunrecognized tax benefit related to uncertain tax positions, deferred tax asset and net deferred tax liability, the table below summarizes the impact of different assumption selections on the Company s net loss and the corresponding impact on net assets based on amounts recorded at December 31, 2011 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

			Impact or	n net loss
	2011	Change	and net	assets
Unrecognized tax benefit related to uncertain tax positions	\$ (12)	+10%	\$	(1)
Deferred tax asset	157	-10%		(16)
Net deferred tax liability	(200)	+10%		(20)

Valuation of Investments and Funds Held Directly Managed, including certain Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company defines fair value as the price received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Company measures the fair value of its financial instruments according to a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the information used to measure fair value into three broad levels.

The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value by maximizing the use of observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are inputs that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the Company s assumptions about what market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the best information available in the circumstances. The level in the hierarchy within which a given fair value measurement falls is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the measurement.

The Company must determine the appropriate level in the hierarchy for each financial instrument that it measures at fair value. In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches, including market, income and cost approaches. See Note 3 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for more detail on the valuation techniques, methods and assumptions that were used by the Company to estimate the fair value of its fixed maturities and short-term investments, equities, other invested assets and its fixed maturities, short-term investments and other invested assets underlying the funds held directly managed account. See Note 6 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for more discussion of the Company s use of derivative financial instruments.

The Company records all of its fixed maturities, short-term investments and equities, certain other invested assets, including derivative financial instruments, and its fixed maturities, short-term investments and certain other invested assets underlying the funds held—directly managed account at fair value in its Consolidated Balance Sheets. The changes in fair value of all of the Company—s investments, carried at fair value, are recorded in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and are included in the determination of net income or loss in the period in which they are recorded.

Under the fair value hierarchy, Management uses certain assumptions and judgments to derive the fair value of its investments, particularly for those assets with significant unobservable inputs, commonly referred to as Level 3 assets. At December 31, 2011, the Company s financial instruments that were measured at fair value and categorized as Level 3 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011
Fixed maturities	\$ 480
Equities	16
Other invested assets	97
Funds held directly managed	16
Total	\$ 609

For the Company s Level 3 fixed maturities, equities, other invested assets and investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, a 10% decline in the fair value of these investments at December 31, 2011 would result in a \$61 million pre-tax charge to net income or loss and a corresponding reduction in total assets.

In addition, included in the Company s other invested assets are various investments which are accounted for using the cost method of accounting, equity method of accounting or investment company accounting, totaling \$268 million at December 31, 2011. The Company does not measure its investments that are accounted for using any of these three methods at fair value. For investments that are accounted for using the cost method of accounting, equity method of accounting or investment company accounting, a 10% decline in the carrying value of these investments at December 31, 2011 would result in a \$27 million pre-tax charge to net income or loss and a corresponding reduction in investments and total assets.

The Company utilizes derivatives for a variety of purposes (see Note 6 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report). The Company s derivatives are carried at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices or internal valuation models where quoted market prices are not available. Most of the Company s derivatives are fair valued using quoted prices in active markets (an insignificant fair value at December 31, 2011), referred to as Level 1 assets, or using significant other observable inputs (fair value of \$7 million net unrealized loss at December 31, 2011), referred to as Level 2 assets. In addition, the Company has certain total return swaps and insurance-linked securities that are fair valued using significant other unobservable inputs, and are included in the Level 3 other invested assets. The total return swaps and insurance-linked securities that are classified as Level 3 have a combined fair value of \$6 million net unrealized gain on combined notional exposure of \$253 million.

In aggregate, the Company is not significantly exposed to changes in the valuation of its total return and interest rate swap portfolio due to changes in the general level of interest rates. However, at December 31, 2011, the Company estimated that a 100 basis point increase or decrease in all risk spread assumptions used in the Company s internal valuation models would result in a \$5 million decrease or a \$5 million increase, respectively, in the fair value of its Level 3 total return and interest rate swap portfolio.

The Company is exposed to changes in the expected amount of future cash flows of the reference assets in its total return swap portfolio. The Company s total return swap portfolio references many different underlying assets with a number of risk factors. At December 31, 2011, the notional value of the Level 3 total return swap portfolio was \$117 million and the fair value of the assets underlying the Level 3 total return swap portfolio was \$123 million. The Company estimated that each 1% increase or decrease in the amount of all expected future cash flows related to the reference assets would result in a \$2 million increase or decrease, respectively, in the fair value of its total return swap portfolio at December 31, 2011.

At December 31, 2011, the Company s insurance-linked securities that are classified as Level 3 include longevity swaps and weather derivatives, with insignificant fair values. At December 31, 2011, the notional exposure of the longevity swaps and weather derivatives classified as Level 3 was \$121 million and \$15 million.

respectively. At December 31, 2011, the Company estimated that a 10% improvement in the mortality assumption used in the Company s internal valuation models for its longevity swaps would result in a \$4 million decrease in the fair value of its longevity swap portfolio. The Level 3 weather derivatives are exposed to various wind events, with maximum aggregate limits of \$15 million, and any change in the assumptions used in the Company s internal models would have an insignificant impact on the fair values at December 31, 2011.

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired of PartnerRe SA, Winterthur Re and Paris Re. The Company assesses the appropriateness of its valuation of goodwill on at least an annual basis. If, as a result of the assessment, the Company determines that the value of its goodwill is impaired, goodwill will be written down in the period in which the determination is made. Neither the Company s initial valuation nor its subsequent valuations has indicated any impairment of the Company s goodwill asset of \$456 million at December 31, 2011.

In making an assessment of the value of its goodwill, the Company uses both market based and non-market based valuations. The fair value of the reporting units is determined based on the earnings multiple, present value of estimated cash flows and present value of future profits methods. Significant changes in the data underlying these assumptions could result in an assessment of impairment of the Company s goodwill asset. In addition, if the current economic environment and/or the Company s financial performance were to deteriorate significantly, this could lead to an impairment of goodwill, the write-off of which would be recorded against net income in the period such deterioration occurred.

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets represent the fair value adjustments related to unpaid losses and loss expenses, as well as the fair values of renewal rights and U.S. insurance licenses arising from the acquisition of Paris Re. Definite-lived intangible assets, related to the unpaid losses and loss expenses and renewal rights, are amortized over their useful lives, generally ranging from two to eleven years. The Company recognizes the amortization of all intangible assets in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. Indefinite-lived intangible assets, related to U.S. licenses, are not subject to amortization. The carrying values of intangible assets are regularly reviewed for indicators of impairment. Impairment is recognized if the carrying value of the intangible assets is not recoverable from its undiscounted cash flows and is measured as the difference between the carrying value and the fair value. Based upon the Company s assessment, there was no impairment of its intangible assets of \$134 million at December 31, 2011.

Results of Operations

The following discussion of Results of Operations contains forward-looking statements based upon assumptions and expectations concerning the potential effect of future events that are subject to uncertainties. See Item 1A of Part I of this report for a complete list of the Company s risk factors. Any of these risk factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in such forward-looking statements.

The Company s reporting currency is the U.S. dollar. The Company s significant subsidiaries and branches have one of the following functional currencies: U.S. dollar, euro or Canadian dollar. As a significant portion of the Company s operations is transacted in foreign currencies, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates may affect year over year comparisons. To the extent that fluctuations in foreign exchange rates affect comparisons, their impact has been quantified, when possible, and discussed in each of the relevant sections. See Note 2(m) to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for a discussion of translation of foreign currencies.

76

The foreign exchange fluctuations for the principal currencies in which the Company transacts business were as follows:

the U.S. dollar average exchange rate was weaker against most currencies in 2011 compared to 2010 and was weaker against most currencies, except the euro, in 2010 compared to 2009; and

the U.S. dollar ending exchange rate strengthened against most currencies, except the Japanese yen, at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010 and weakened against most currencies, except the euro and British pound, at December 31, 2010 compared to December 31, 2009.

Overview

The Company measures its performance in several ways. Among the performance measures accepted under U.S. GAAP is diluted net income or loss per share, a measure that focuses on the return provided to the Company s common shareholders. Diluted net income or loss per share is obtained by dividing net income or loss available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents outstanding. Net income or loss available to common shareholders is defined as net income or loss less preferred dividends. See the discussion of the non-GAAP performance measures that the Company uses (operating earnings or loss and Operating ROE) and the reconciliation of those non-GAAP measures to the most comparable GAAP measures in Key Financial Measures below.

Net (loss) income, preferred dividends, net (loss) income available to common shareholders and diluted net (loss) income per share for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars, except per share data):

	2011	2010	2009
Net (loss) income	\$ (520)	\$ 853	\$ 1,537
Less: preferred dividends	47	35	35
Net (loss) income available to common shareholders	\$ (567)	\$ 818	\$ 1,502
Diluted net (loss) income per share	\$ (8.40)	\$ 10.46	\$ 23.51

The year over year comparison of the Company s net (loss) income and diluted (loss) income per share is primarily affected by the following:

the losses related to large catastrophic and large loss events in the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, compared to no significant catastrophic losses in the year ended December 31, 2009;

the acquisition of Paris Re. The Consolidated Statements of Operations and Cash Flows for the year ended December 31, 2009 include the results of Paris Re only from October 2, 2009, the date of acquisition of the controlling interest, while the results for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 include Paris Re s results for the full year;

the decrease in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned in the Non-life segment. These decreases are primarily due to cancellations and non-renewals of business as a result of declines in pricing in certain competitive markets and the repositioning of the Company s portfolio following the integration of Paris Re s business, including a reduction in catastrophe exposures;

continued volatility in the capital and credit markets; and

costs related to the integration of Paris Re. These costs include charges related to the Company s voluntary termination plan (voluntary plan) available to certain eligible employees in France, announced in April 2010 as part of the Company s integration of

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Paris Re.

To the extent that the above events have affected the year over year comparison of the Company s results, their impact has been quantified and discussed in each of the relevant sections. An overview of each of these events is provided below.

77

As the Company s reinsurance operations are exposed to low frequency and high severity risk events, some of which are seasonal, results for certain periods may include unusually low loss experience, while results for other periods may include significant catastrophic losses. For example, the Company s results for 2009 included no significant catastrophic losses, while 2010 included losses from large catastrophic and large loss events, and 2011 included an unusually high frequency of high severity catastrophic events, in particular the Japan Earthquake and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes.

In 2011, the Company incurred losses, net of retrocession, reinstatement premiums and profit commission adjustments, of \$1,790 million related to the combined impact of the 2011 catastrophic events. The Company s incurred net losses related to these events included \$919 million related to the Japan Earthquake, \$455 million related to the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, \$120 million related to the Thailand Floods, \$107 million related to the U.S. tornadoes, \$100 million related to aggregate contracts covering losses in New Zealand and Australia, \$41 million related to the Australian Floods and an additional IBNR reserve of \$48 million related to the 2011 catastrophic events, above the sum of the recorded point estimates, given the high frequency of, and uncertainty related to, these complex and volatile events (see Results by Segment below and Critical Accounting Policies Reserves above for further details).

In comparison, the Company incurred large catastrophic and large losses of \$559 million in 2010, net of retrocession, reinstatement premiums and profit commission adjustments, related to the combined impact of the Chile Earthquake, 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, Deepwater Horizon and an aggregate contract covering losses in Australia and New Zealand.

Loss estimates arising from earthquakes are inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events. The Company s actual losses from the 2010 and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes may materially exceed the estimated losses as a result of, among other things, an increase in industry insured loss estimates, the expected lengthy claims development period, in particular for earthquake related losses, and the receipt of additional information from cedants, brokers and loss adjusters. In addition, the Company s loss estimate related to the Japan Earthquake is inherently more uncertain than those from other catastrophic events given the characteristics of the Company s reinsurance portfolio in the region, changes in loss assumptions for specific cedants may have a material impact on the Company s loss estimate related to this event given a significant portion of the losses are concentrated with a few large cedants. The Company believes there remains a high degree of uncertainty related to its loss estimates related to the 2010 and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes and the Japan Earthquake and the ultimate losses arising from these events may be materially in excess of, or less than, the amounts provided for in the Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011. Any adjustments to the Company s preliminary estimate of its ultimate losses related to these events will be reflected in the periods in which they are determined, which may affect the Company s operating results in future periods.

78

The following table reflects the combined impact of the above losses and the impact on the Company s technical result, net realized and unrealized investment gains, pre-tax loss or income, loss ratio and combined ratio by segment and sub-segment for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

December 21, 2011		orth erica	(No	lobal n-U.S.) P&C	(Non	obal -U.S.) cialty	Cat	actuonha	Total Non-life		ife	aı	orate nd her	Total
December 31, 2011	AIII	erica	r	ac	Spe	ciaity	Cat	astrophe	Segment	Segi	nent	Oi	ner	Total
Net losses and loss expenses and life														
policy benefits	\$	56	\$	149	\$	65	\$	1,511	\$ 1,781	\$	3	\$	5	\$ 1,789
Reinstatement premiums								(33)	(33)					(33)
Acquisition costs		(6)						(9)	(15)					(15)
•														
Impact on technical result	\$	50	\$	149	\$	65	\$	1,469	\$ 1,733	\$	3	\$	5	\$ 1,741
Net realized and unrealized														
investment losses													49	49
Impact on pre-tax net loss									\$ 1,733	\$	3	\$	54	\$ 1,790
Impact on the loss ratio		4.9%		19.7%		4.8%		262.1%	45.9%					
Impact on the combined ratio									45.2%					

December 31, 2010	rth erica	(No	lobal n-U.S.) P&C	(No	lobal n-U.S.) ecialty	Cata	strophe	No	Total on-life gment	Life Segment	Corporate and Other	Total
Net losses and loss expenses and life												
policy benefits	\$ 5	\$	157	\$	126	\$	280	\$	568	\$	\$	\$ 568
Reinstatement premiums			(1)		(2)		(6)		(9)			(9)
Impact on technical result and pre-tax												
net income	\$ 5	\$	156	\$	124	\$	274	\$	559	\$	\$	\$ 559
Impact on the loss ratio	0.5%		17.1%		8.9%		41.2%		14.1%			
Impact on the combined ratio									13.9%			

During the year ended December 31, 2011, gross and net premiums written in the Company s Non-life segment decreased by 7% and net premiums earned in the Company s Non-life segment decreased by 5% compared to 2010. The decreases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned impacted all of the Company s Non-life sub-segments, except the North America sub-segment. These decreases were primarily driven by the effects of the Company s decision to reduce or cancel business, as a result of decreases in pricing in certain competitive markets, and to reposition its portfolios following the integration of Paris Re s business, which included reducing the level of catastrophe-exposed business written. In contrast, the North America sub-segment benefitted from an increase in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned of 7%, 8% and 9%, respectively, due to the agriculture line of business.

In 2011, U.S. and European risk-free interest rates decreased and credit spreads widened, while the U.S. dollar ending exchange rate at December 31, 2011 strengthened against most major currencies compared to December 31, 2010. Equity markets were relatively flat over the full year of 2011, despite volatility during the quarterly periods. As a result of these movements, the value of the Company s investment portfolio and cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2011 increased compared to December 31, 2010, positively affected by the impact of decreased risk-free interest rates, which were largely offset by the impact of widening credit spreads and foreign exchange rates.

In 2010, U.S. and European risk-free rates decreased, equity markets improved and credit spreads modestly declined. As a result of these movements, the fair value of the Company s investment portfolio and cash and cash equivalents increased as of December 31, 2010 compared to December 31, 2009, primarily due to an increase in the fair value of fixed maturities and equities, as well as net cash provided by operating activities, which was partially offset by the impact of foreign exchange.

79

In 2010, the Company recorded pre-tax charges of \$41 million related to the costs of the voluntary plan within other operating expenses in its Corporate and Other segment. Participating employees will continue to receive salary and other employment benefits until they leave the Company. The continuing salary and other employment benefit costs related to employees participating in the voluntary plan will be expensed as the employee provides service and remains with the Company. Following their departure from the Company, the employees will continue to receive the pre-determined payments related to employment benefits, which were accrued for by the Company under the terms of the voluntary plan during the year ended December 31, 2010.

These factors affecting the year over year comparison of the Company s results are discussed below in Review of Net (Loss) Income, Results by Segment and Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources, and may continue to affect our results of operations and financial condition in the future.

2011 compared to 2010

The decrease in net income, net income available to common shareholders and diluted net income per share for 2011 compared to 2010 resulted primarily from:

a decrease in the Non-life underwriting result of \$1,177 million, which was driven by the 2011 catastrophic events, a modestly higher level of mid-sized loss activity and lower profitability driven by declines in pricing in certain lines of business. These decreases were partially offset by a modestly higher level of favorable prior year loss development in 2011 compared to 2010;

- a decrease in pre-tax net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$335 million; and
- a decrease in net investment income of \$44 million, primarily driven by lower reinvestment rates; partially offset by
- a decrease in other corporate operating expenses of \$67 million, primarily driven by the charges related to the Company s voluntary termination plan in 2010;
- a decrease in income tax expense of \$60 million, resulting from a lower pre-tax net income; and

an increase in net foreign exchange gains of \$55 million.

2010 compared to 2009

The decrease in net income, net income available to common shareholders and diluted net income per share for 2010 compared to 2009 resulted primarily from:

a decrease in the Non-life underwriting result of \$451 million, driven by large catastrophic losses related to the Chile Earthquake and 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, and losses related to Deepwater Horizon and an aggregate contract covering losses in Australia and New Zealand:

a decrease in pre-tax net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$189 million;

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

no activity related to the Company s capital efficient notes (CENts) in 2010 compared to a gain of \$89 million on purchase of CENts in 2009;

a decrease in the Life underwriting result of \$40 million, primarily driven by an increase in net adverse prior year loss development in the longevity line;

an increase in other corporate operating expenses of \$35 million, primarily driven by charges related to the voluntary plan; and

various other factors, the primary one being an increase in amortization of intangible assets of \$37 million; which were partially offset by

a decrease in income tax expense of \$133 million, resulting primarily from a lower pre-tax income; and

80

an increase in net investment income of \$77 million, driven by the inclusion of Paris Re s net investment income for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only in 2009.

Review of Net (Loss) Income

Management analyzes the Company s net income or loss in three parts: underwriting result, investment result and other components of net income or loss. Underwriting result consists of net premiums earned and other income or loss less losses and loss expenses and life policy benefits, acquisition costs and other operating expenses. Investment result consists of net investment income, net realized and unrealized investment gains or losses and interest in earnings or losses of equity investments. Net investment income includes interest and dividends, net of investment expenses, generated by the Company s investment activities, as well as interest income generated on funds held assets. Net realized and unrealized investment gains or losses include sales of the Company s fixed income, equity and other invested assets and investments underlying the funds held directly managed account and changes in net unrealized gains or losses. Interest in earnings or losses of equity investments includes the Company s strategic investments. Other components of net income or loss include net realized gain on purchase of CENts in 2009, technical result and other income or loss, other operating expenses, interest expense, amortization of intangible assets, net foreign exchange gains or losses and income tax expense or benefit.

The components of net (loss) income for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Underwriting result:					
Non-life	\$ (973)	NM%	\$ 204	(69)%	\$ 655
Life	(27)	(47)	(51)	362	(11)
Investment result:					
Net investment income	629	(6)	673	13	596
Net realized and unrealized investment gains	67	(83)	402	(32)	591
Interest in (losses) earnings of equity investments (1)	(6)	NM	13	(19)	16
Corporate and Other:					
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes		NM		NM	89
Technical result (2)	6	NM		(99)	10
Other income (2)	3	6	3	(61)	7
Other operating expenses	(99)	(41)	(166)	27	(131)
Interest expense	(49)	10	(44)	57	(28)
Amortization of intangible assets (3)	(36)	16	(31)	(613)	6
Net foreign exchange gains (losses)	34	NM	(21)	NM	(1)
Income tax expense	(69)	(46)	(129)	(51)	(262)
Net (loss) income	\$ (520)	NM	\$ 853	(45)	\$ 1,537

NM: not meaningful

- (1) Interest in earnings or loss of equity investments represents the Company's aggregate share of earnings or losses related to several private placement investments and limited partnerships within the Corporate and Other segment. See the discussion in Corporate and Other Interest in Earnings of Equity Investments below for more details.
- (2) Technical result and other income primarily relate to income on insurance-linked securities and principal finance transactions within the Corporate and Other segment. See the discussion in Corporate and Other Technical Result and Other Income below for more details.
- (3) Amortization of intangible assets relates to intangible assets acquired in the acquisition of Paris Re in 2009.

Underwriting result is a measurement that the Company uses to manage and evaluate its Non-life and Life segments, as it is a primary measure of underlying profitability for the Company s core reinsurance operations, separate from the investment results. The Company believes that in order to enhance the understanding of its profitability, it is useful for investors to evaluate the components of net income or loss separately and in the aggregate. Underwriting result should not be considered a substitute for net income or loss and does not reflect the overall profitability of the business, which is also impacted by investment results and other items.

2011 compared to 2010

The underwriting result for the Non-life segment decreased by \$1,177 million, from \$204 million in 2010 to a loss of \$973 million in 2011. The decrease was attributable to:

an increase in large catastrophic losses and large losses of \$1,174 million, net of retrocession, reinstatement premiums and profit commissions, related to the 2011 catastrophic events, compared to the 2010 catastrophic events and Deepwater Horizon; and

a decrease of approximately \$79 million resulting from a decrease in the book of business, declining profitability due to reduced pricing and reduced catastrophe exposures in certain lines of business and a modestly higher level of mid-sized loss activity, which was reduced by the impact of a change in mix towards the agriculture line in the North America sub-segment; partially offset by

an increase in net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$52 million, from \$478 million in 2010 to \$530 million in 2011. The components of the net favorable loss development are described in more detail in the discussion of individual sub-segments in Results by Segment below; and

a decrease in other operating expenses of \$34 million, primarily driven by lower personnel costs.

The underwriting result for the Life segment, which does not include allocated investment income, improved by \$24 million, from a loss of \$51 million in 2010 to a loss of \$27 million in 2011. The improvement in the Life underwriting result was primarily due to a decrease in net adverse prior year loss development, from net adverse development of \$12 million in 2010 to net favorable development of \$1 million in 2011, and increased profitability generated from new and existing business. See Results by Segment below.

Net investment income decreased by \$44 million, from \$673 million in 2010 to \$629 million in 2011. The decrease in net investment income of 6% is primarily attributable to a decrease in net investment income from fixed maturities and the fixed maturities underlying the funds held directly managed account due to lower reinvestment rates. See Corporate and Other Net Investment Income below for more details.

Net realized and unrealized investment gains decreased by \$335 million, from \$402 million in 2010 to \$67 million in 2011. The net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$67 million in 2011 were primarily due to declining U.S. and European risk-free interest rates, which were partially offset by widening credit spreads, realized and unrealized losses on treasury note futures and losses on insurance-linked securities impacted by the Japan Earthquake. Net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$67 million in 2011 primarily consisted of net realized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments and equities of \$248 million, the change in net unrealized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments of \$128 million and net realized and unrealized investment gains on funds held directly managed of \$11 million. These gains were partially offset by net realized investment losses on other invested assets, primarily related to treasury note futures, of \$176 million and the change in net unrealized investment losses on equities and other invested assets of \$148 million. See Corporate and Other Net Realized and Unrealized Investment Gains below for more details.

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Other operating expenses included in Corporate and Other decreased by \$67 million, from \$166 million in 2010 to \$99 million in 2011. The decrease was primarily due to the charges related to the Company s voluntary termination plan in 2010, as well as lower personnel costs in 2011.

Interest expense increased by \$5 million, from \$44 million in 2010 to \$49 million in 2011. The increase was primarily due to the timing of the issuance of \$500 million 5.500% Senior Notes in March 2010, which was not outstanding for the entire year in 2010.

Net foreign exchange gains increased by \$55 million, from a loss of \$21 million in 2010 to a gain of \$34 million in 2011. The increase in net foreign exchange gains in 2011 resulted primarily from gains arising from the timing of the hedging activities and lower forward points paid, which reflects the interest rate differential between currencies bought and sold against the U.S. dollar. The Company hedges a significant portion of its currency risk exposure as discussed in Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk in Item 3 of Part I of this report.

Income tax expense decreased by \$60 million, from \$129 million in 2010 to \$69 million in 2011. The decrease in the income tax expense was primarily due to the Company s taxable jurisdictions generating a lower pre-tax income in 2011 compared to 2010. See Corporate and Other Income Taxes below for more details.

2010 compared to 2009

The underwriting result for the Non-life segment decreased by \$451 million, from \$655 million in 2009 to \$204 million in 2010. The decrease was principally attributable to:

an increase in large catastrophic losses and large losses of \$559 million, net of reinstatement premiums, related to the Chile Earthquake, 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, Deepwater Horizon and an aggregate contract covering losses in Australia and New Zealand:

an increase in other operating expenses of \$64 million, primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s Non-life operating expenses for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009; and

a decrease in net favorable loss development on prior years of \$8 million, from \$486 million in 2009 to \$478 million in 2010. The components of the net favorable loss development are described in more detail in the discussion of individual sub-segments in Results by Segment below; partially offset by

an increase of approximately \$180 million resulting from the inclusion of Paris Re s business (before the impact of large catastrophic losses, losses and loss expenses related to Deepwater Horizon, operating expenses and net favorable loss development included above), a lower level of loss estimates recorded in the specialty casualty and credit/surety lines of business related to the global economic and financial crisis and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods, partially offset by a higher level of mid-sized loss activity.

Underwriting result for the Life segment decreased by \$40 million, from a loss of \$11 million in 2009 to a loss of \$51 million in 2010. The decrease was primarily driven by net adverse prior year loss development in the longevity line in 2010 compared to net favorable prior year development in the mortality line in 2009. See Results by Segment below.

Net investment income increased by \$77 million, from \$596 million in 2009 to \$673 million in 2010. The increase in net investment income of 13% is primarily attributable to an increase in net investment income from fixed maturities due to the purchase of higher yielding investments, the reinvestment of cash flows from operations and the inclusion of Paris Re s net investment income for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The increase was partially offset by cash flows from operations being used to repurchase common shares and repay debt during the year and by lower reinvestment rates.

Net realized and unrealized investment gains decreased by \$189 million, from \$591 million in 2009 to \$402 million in 2010. The net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$402 million in 2010 were primarily due to decreases in U.S. and European risk-free interest rates and increases in equity markets. Net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$402 million in 2010 consist of net realized investment gains on fixed maturities, short-term investments and equities of \$218 million, the change in net unrealized investment gains on fixed maturities, short-term investments, equities and other invested assets of \$212 million, net realized and unrealized investment gains on funds held directly managed and net other realized and unrealized gains of \$40 million, which were partially offset by net realized losses on other invested assets of \$68 million.

Net realized gain on purchase of CENts was \$89 million in 2009 as the Company purchased \$187 million of the CENts for \$93 million, which after deferred issuance costs and fees produced a gain of \$89 million. No similar gain was recorded in 2010.

Other operating expenses included in Corporate and Other increased by \$35 million, from \$131 million in 2009 to \$166 million in 2010. The increase was primarily due to the charges related to the Company s voluntary plan, discussed in Overview above, higher personnel expenses, partially offset by lower consulting and professional fees related to the acquisition of Paris Re.

Interest expense increased by \$16 million, from \$28 million in 2009 to \$44 million in 2010 mainly due to interest related to the issuance of \$500 million 5.500% Senior Notes in 2010.

Net foreign exchange losses increased by \$20 million, from \$1 million in 2009 to \$21 million in 2010. The increase in net foreign exchange losses in 2010 resulted primarily from losses arising from the impact of the Company shedging program, partially offset by currency movements on unhedged equity securities. The Company hedges a significant portion of its currency risk exposure as discussed in Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk in Item 3 of Part I of this report.

Income tax expense decreased by \$133 million, from \$262 million in 2009 to \$129 million in 2010. The decrease in the income tax expense was primarily due to lower pre-tax income, with the Company s taxable jurisdictions generating lower pre-tax income in 2010 compared to 2009, as well as a decrease in tax on the net realized gain on purchase of CENts of \$31 million recorded in 2009. See Corporate and Other Income Taxes below for more details.

Results by Segment

The Company monitors the performance of its operations in three segments, Non-life, Life and Corporate & Other. The Non-life segment is further divided into four sub-segments, North America, Global (Non-U.S.) Property and Casualty (Global (Non-U.S.) P&C), Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty and Catastrophe. Segments and sub-segments represent markets that are reasonably homogeneous in terms of geography, client types, buying patterns, underlying risk patterns and approach to risk management. See the description of the Company segments and sub-segments as well as a discussion of how the Company measures its segment results in Note 22 to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of Part II of this report.

Segment results are shown before intercompany transactions. Business reported in the Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty Non-life sub-segments and the Life segment is, to a significant extent, denominated in foreign currencies and is reported in U.S. dollars at the average foreign exchange rates for each period. The U.S. dollar has fluctuated against the euro and other currencies during each of the three years presented and this should be considered when making year to year comparisons.

84

Non-life Segment

North America

The North America sub-segment is comprised of lines of business that are considered to be either short, medium or long-tail. The short-tail lines consist primarily of agriculture, property and motor business and represented 48%, 47% and 54% of net premiums written in this sub-segment in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Casualty is considered to be long-tail and represented 40%, 42% and 37% of net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, while credit/surety and multiline are considered to have a medium-tail and accounted for the balance of net premiums written in this sub-segment. The casualty line typically tends to have a higher loss ratio and a lower technical result, due to the long-tail nature of the risks involved. Casualty treaties typically provide for investment income on premiums invested over a longer period as losses are typically paid later than for other lines. Investment income, however, is not considered in the calculation of technical result.

The following table provides the components of the technical result and the corresponding ratios for this sub-segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Gross premiums written	\$ 1,104	7%	\$ 1,028	(12)%	\$ 1,162
Net premiums written	1,104	8	1,026	(12)	1,162
Net premiums earned	\$ 1,135	9	\$ 1,038	(14)	\$ 1,210
Losses and loss expenses	(741)	28	(577)	(21)	(728)
Acquisition costs	(276)	(4)	(288)	(8)	(311)
Technical result (1)	\$ 118	(32)	\$ 173	1	\$ 171
Loss ratio (2)	65.3%		55.6%		60.2%
Acquisition ratio (3)	24.3		27.8		25.7
-					
Technical ratio (4)	89.6%		83.4%		85.9%

- (1) Technical result is defined as net premiums earned less losses and loss expenses and acquisition costs.
- (2) Loss ratio is obtained by dividing losses and loss expenses by net premiums earned.
- (3) Acquisition ratio is obtained by dividing acquisition costs by net premiums earned.
- (4) Technical ratio is defined as the sum of the loss ratio and the acquisition ratio.

Premiums

The North America sub-segment represented 24%, 22% and 30% of total net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in the North America sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was mainly due to higher net premiums written in this sub-segment, primarily in the agriculture line of business, and decreases in net premiums written in the Company s other Non-life sub-segments. The decrease in the North America sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to lower net premiums written in the agriculture line of business, overall declining market conditions and the inclusion of the majority of Paris Re s premiums in the Company s other Non-life sub-segments.

2011 compared to 2010

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned increased by 7%, 8% and 9%, respectively, in 2011 compared to 2010. The increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were primarily attributable to the agriculture line of business and were mainly driven by increased demand, higher agricultural commodity prices and lower downward premium adjustments. The increase in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned was partially offset by decreases in certain lines, primarily in the property line, driven by cancellations and lower renewals due to increased retentions and reductions in pricing, as

85

well as, higher downward premium adjustments in 2011. Notwithstanding the declining market conditions, higher retentions and the competition prevailing in certain lines of business and markets of this sub-segment, the Company was able to write business that met its portfolio objectives.

2010 compared to 2009

Gross and net premiums written decreased by 12% and net premiums earned decreased by 14% in 2010 compared to 2009. The decrease in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned was primarily attributable to the agriculture line of business resulting from lower agricultural commodity price levels and higher retentions by cedants. Net premiums earned were also impacted by a decrease in the casualty line of business which was driven by timing differences related to the renewal of treaties and overall declining market conditions. These decreases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were partially offset by lower downward premium adjustments related to prior periods reported by cedants in 2010 compared to 2009, primarily in the motor, agriculture and casualty lines.

Losses and loss expenses and loss ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2011 reflected:

large catastrophic losses, primarily related to the U.S. tornadoes, of \$56 million, or 4.9 points on the loss ratio;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$189 million, or 16.7 points on the loss ratio;

an increase in the book of business and exposure driven by the agriculture line, which also resulted in a change in the mix of business towards the agriculture line, which generally carries a higher loss ratio compared to most of the other lines of business in this sub-segment;

a higher level of mid-sized loss activity; and

declines in pricing in certain lines of business.

The net favorable loss development of \$189 million included net favorable development for prior accident years in most lines of business, predominantly in the casualty line, while the credit/surety and motor lines experienced combined adverse loss development for prior accident years of \$11 million. Loss information provided by cedants in 2011 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected (higher for credit/surety and motor) and included no individually material losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased (increased for credit/surety and motor) its expected ultimate loss ratios for most lines of business, which had the net effect of decreasing (increasing for credit/surety and motor) prior year loss estimates.

The increase of \$164 million in losses and loss expenses in 2011 compared to 2010 included:

an increase of approximately \$137 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from the increase in the book of business and exposure and the related change in the mix of business towards the agriculture line of business, the impact of declining pricing and profitability of the business between periods and a higher level of mid-sized loss activity; and

an increase of \$51 million in large catastrophic losses and large losses and loss expenses; partially offset by

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

an increase of \$24 million in net favorable prior year loss development.

86

2010 compared to 2009

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2010 reflected:

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$165 million, or 16.0 points on the loss ratio;

no large catastrophic losses;

the inclusion of losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re;

losses and loss expenses related to Deepwater Horizon of \$5 million, or 0.5 points on the loss ratio;

a lower level of loss estimates recorded in the casualty line of business reflecting abating economic and financial market conditions; and

a decrease in the book of business and exposure.

The net favorable loss development of \$165 million included net favorable development for prior accident years in most lines of business, predominantly in the casualty and agriculture lines, while the motor line experienced adverse loss development for prior accident years of \$8 million. Loss information provided by cedants in 2010 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected (higher for motor) and included no individually significant losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratios for most lines of business (increased for motor), which had the net effect of decreasing (increasing for motor) prior year loss estimates.

The decrease of \$151 million in losses and loss expenses in 2010 compared to 2009 included:

a decrease of approximately \$168 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from a decrease in the book of business and exposure, predominantly in the agriculture line of business, a lower level of loss estimates recorded in the casualty line of business and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods; partially offset by

a decrease of \$12 million in net favorable prior year loss development; and

an increase in losses and loss expenses of \$5 million related to Deepwater Horizon.

Acquisition costs and acquisition ratio

2011 compared to 2010

Acquisition costs and the acquisition ratio decreased in 2011 compared to 2010 as a result of the change in the mix of business towards the agriculture line, which generally carries a lower acquisition ratio compared to the other lines of business in this sub-segment, and lower profit commission adjustments reported by cedants in 2011 in various lines of business. This decrease in acquisition costs was partially offset by the impact of higher net premiums earned in 2011 compared to 2010.

2010 compared to 2009

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Acquisition costs decreased in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily as a result of lower net premiums earned. The acquisition ratio increased in 2010 compared to 2009 mainly due to higher profit commission adjustments reported by cedants in 2010, primarily in the agriculture line of business, partially offset by lower commission rates in most lines of business.

Technical result and technical ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The decrease of \$55 million in the technical result and the corresponding increase in the technical ratio in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily attributable to an increase of \$45 million, net of profit commissions, in large catastrophic losses and large losses, the change in the mix of business towards the agriculture line, the impact of declining pricing and profitability of the business and a higher level of mid-sized loss activity. These decreases in the technical result were partially offset by an increase of \$24 million in net favorable prior year loss development.

2010 compared to 2009

The increase of \$2 million in the technical result and the corresponding decrease in technical ratio in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily attributable to a lower level of loss estimates recorded in the casualty line of business and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods, partially offset by a decrease of \$12 million in net favorable prior year loss development and an increase of \$5 million related to Deepwater Horizon.

2012 Outlook

During the January 1, 2012 renewals, the Company observed a fairly stable environment with competitive conditions in most markets, and price increases generally in loss affected markets only. The expected premium volume from the Company s January 1, 2012 renewal modestly decreased compared to the prior year renewal primarily as a result of the Company s decision to cancel or reduce certain business. The agriculture business traditionally renews later and remains largely in process. Management expects a continuation of the observed trends in pricing and conditions during the remainder of 2012.

Global (Non-U.S.) P&C

The Global (Non-U.S.) P&C sub-segment is composed of short-tail business, in the form of property and proportional motor business, that represented approximately 84%, 82% and 84% of net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and long-tail business, in the form of casualty and non-proportional motor business, that represented the balance of net premiums written.

The following table provides the components of the technical result and the corresponding ratios for this sub-segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Gross premiums written	\$ 682	(25)%	\$ 909	34%	\$ 677
Net premiums written	678	(24)	898	32	679
Net premiums earned	\$ 759	(17)	\$ 914	25	\$ 729
Losses and loss expenses	(567)	(19)	(702)	79	(392)
Acquisition costs	(191)	(16)	(227)	31	(174)
Technical result	\$ 1	NM	\$ (15)	NM	\$ 163
Loss ratio	74.7%		76.8%		53.7%
Acquisition ratio	25.1		24.9		23.8
•					
Technical ratio	99.8%		101.7%		77.5%

NM: not meaningful

Premiums

The Global (Non-U.S.) P&C sub-segment represented 15%, 19% and 17% of total net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The decrease in the Global (Non-U.S.) P&C sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily due to the effects of the Company s decision to cancel or reduce business as a result of decreases in pricing and the repositioning of the Company s portfolio, as described below. The increase in the Global (Non-U.S.) P&C sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums for a full year compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009.

2011 compared to 2010

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned decreased by 25%, 24% and 17%, respectively, in 2011 compared to 2010. The decreases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned resulted from all lines of business and were mainly driven by the effects of the Company's decision to cancel or reduce business due to lower pricing in competitive markets, the repositioning of the Company's portfolio following the integration of Paris Re's business, which included reducing catastrophe-exposed business in the property line, and higher retentions by cedants. These decreases were partially offset by foreign exchange fluctuations, which increased gross and net premiums written by 2% and net premiums earned by 4% due to the impact of the weaker U.S. dollar in 2011 compared to 2010. The decrease in net premiums earned was less pronounced than the decreases in gross and net premiums written due to the impact of continuing to earn the higher level of net premiums written in 2010 during the year ended December 31, 2011, given most business in this sub-segment is written on a proportional basis. Notwithstanding the increased competition and overall declines in pricing prevailing in certain lines of business and markets of this sub-segment, the Company was able to write business that met its portfolio objectives.

2010 compared to 2009

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned increased by 34%, 32% and 25%, respectively, in 2010 compared to 2009. The increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned resulted mainly from business written by Paris Re, which is included in this sub-segment s results for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The increases were also driven by an increase in upward premium adjustments, increases in treaty participations and new business written, predominantly in the property line of business.

Losses and loss expenses and loss ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2011 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Thailand Floods, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, Japan Earthquake and Australian Floods of \$149 million, or 19.7 points on the loss ratio;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$116 million, or 15.3 points on the loss ratio; and

a decrease in the book of business and exposure and declines in pricing.

The net favorable loss development of \$116 million included net favorable development for prior accident years in all lines of business, and was most pronounced in the motor line. Loss information provided by cedants in 2011 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected and included no individually significant losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratios for all lines of business, which had the net effect of decreasing prior year loss estimates.

The decrease of \$135 million in losses and loss expenses in 2011 compared to 2010
--

a decrease of approximately \$109 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from a decrease in the book of business and exposure, which was partially offset by the impact of declining pricing on the profitability of the business between periods;

an increase of \$18 million in net favorable prior year loss development; and

a decrease of \$8 million in large catastrophic losses. 2010 compared to 2009

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2010 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Chile Earthquake and 2010 New Zealand Earthquake of \$157 million, or 17.1 points on the loss ratio;

the inclusion of losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$98 million, or 10.7 points on the loss ratio;

a lower level of mid-sized loss activity; and

an increase in the book of business and exposure.

The net favorable loss development of \$98 million included net favorable development for prior accident years in all lines of business, but was most pronounced in the property line. Loss information provided by cedants in 2010 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected and included no individually significant losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratios for all lines of business, which had the net effect of decreasing prior year loss estimates.

The increase of \$310 million in losses and loss expenses in 2010 compared to 2009 included:

an increase of \$157 million in large catastrophic losses;

an increase of approximately \$99 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from an increase in losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re and an increase in the book of business and exposure, which was partially offset by normal fluctuations in profitability between periods and a lower level of mid-sized loss activity; and

a decrease of \$54 million in net favorable prior year loss development.

Acquisition costs and acquisition ratio

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

2011 compared to 2010

Acquisition costs decreased in 2011 compared to 2010 primarily as a result of lower net premiums earned. The acquisition ratio was comparable between 2011 and 2010.

2010 compared to 2009

Acquisition costs increased in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily as a result of higher net premiums earned. The increase in the acquisition ratio in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to higher profit commission adjustments in the casualty line of business and new business with higher commission rates in the motor line of business, partially offset by the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums which carry a lower acquisition ratio

90

Technical result and technical ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The increase of \$16 million in the technical result and the corresponding decrease in the technical ratio in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily attributable to an increase of \$18 million in net favorable prior year loss development and a decrease of \$7 million, net of reinstatement premiums, in large catastrophic losses. These increases in the technical result were partially offset by declining profitability and lower net premiums earned between periods.

2010 compared to 2009

The decrease of \$178 million in the technical result and corresponding increase in technical ratio in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to an increase of \$156 million, net of reinstatement premiums, in large catastrophic losses and a decrease of \$54 million in net favorable prior year loss development, which was partially offset by a lower level of mid-sized loss activity and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods.

2012 Outlook

During the January 1, 2012 renewals, the Company generally observed a continuation of the soft market in most markets with terms and conditions stable to down compared to the prior year renewal. A hardening of terms and conditions and price increases was only generally observed in loss affected markets. Overall, the expected premium volume from the Company s January 1, 2012 renewal, at constant foreign exchange rates, increased compared to the prior year renewal primarily as a result of opportunities to write new business in the motor line of business, which was partially offset by the Company s decision to further reduce the level of its catastrophe exposed business. Management expects a continuation of the observed trends in pricing and terms and conditions during the remainder of 2012.

Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty

The Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segment is primarily comprised of lines of business that are considered to be either short or medium-tail. The short-tail lines consist of agriculture, energy and specialty property and represented 23%, 23% and 21% of net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Aviation/space, credit/surety, engineering and marine are considered to have a medium-tail and represented 69%, 66% and 68%, respectively, of net premiums written, while specialty casualty is considered to be long-tail and accounted for the balance of net premiums written in this sub-segment in 2011, 2010 and 2009.

The following table provides the components of the technical result and the corresponding ratios for this sub-segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Gross premiums written	\$ 1,446	(2)%	\$ 1,479	28%	\$ 1,159
Net premiums written	1,344	(3)	1,391	25	1,113
Net premiums earned	\$ 1,376	(2)	\$ 1,405	26	\$ 1,116
Losses and loss expenses	(950)	(3)	(985)	35	(732)
Acquisition costs	(328)	12	(292)	15	(254)
Technical result	\$ 98	(24)	\$ 128	(1)	\$ 130
Loss ratio	69.1%		70.0%		65.6%
Acquisition ratio	23.8		20.8		22.7
Technical ratio	92.9%		90.8%		88.3%

91

Premiums

The Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segment represented 30%, 29% and 28% of total net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in the Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily due to the relatively modest decrease in this sub-segment s net premiums written compared to decreases in net premiums written in the Global (Non-U.S.) P&C and Catastrophe sub-segments. The increase in the Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009.

2011 compared to 2010

Gross premiums written and net premiums earned decreased by 2% and net premiums written decreased by 3%, in 2011 compared to 2010. The decrease in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned resulted from most lines of business and was primarily due to the effects of the Company s decision to cancel or reduce business as a result of modestly reduced pricing in certain competitive lines of business and the repositioning of the Company s portfolio following the integration of Paris Re s business. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in upward premium adjustments reported by cedants in 2011 compared to 2010, which were primarily driven by the energy and engineering lines of business, increases in treaty participations in the credit/surety line of business, new business written in the specialty property line of business and the impact of the weaker U.S. dollar in 2011 compared to 2010. Foreign exchange fluctuations increased gross and net premiums written by 2% and net premiums earned by 4%. Notwithstanding the diverse conditions prevailing in various markets within this sub-segment, with terms in most markets soft and terms in loss affected lines strengthening, the Company was able to write business that met its portfolio objectives.

2010 compared to 2009

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned increased by 28%, 25% and 26% in 2010 compared to 2009, respectively. The increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned resulted mainly from business written by Paris Re, which is included in this sub-segment s results for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The increases were also driven by the marine, specialty property, credit/surety and aviation lines of business, which benefited from new business written and increased treaty participations. These increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were partially offset by decreases in all other lines, predominantly in the engineering line of business, which was driven by a significant non-renewable treaty written in 2009.

Losses and loss expenses and loss ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2011 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Thailand Floods, U.S. tornadoes, Japan Earthquake, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes and Australian Floods of \$65 million, or 4.8 points on the loss ratio;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$129 million, or 9.4 points on the loss ratio;

a higher level of mid-sized loss activity; and

a decrease in the book of business and exposure and declines in pricing in certain lines of business.

The net favorable loss development of \$129 million included net favorable loss development for prior accident years in most lines of business, except for the energy and engineering lines, which experienced

92

combined adverse loss development for prior accident years of \$13 million. The adverse loss development for prior accident year in the energy and engineering lines was driven by the increase in upward premium adjustments reported by cedants in 2011, as described above. Loss information provided by cedants in 2011 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected (higher for energy and engineering) and included no individually significant losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased (increased for energy and engineering) its expected ultimate loss ratios, which had the net effect of decreasing (increasing for energy and engineering) prior year loss estimates.

The decrease of \$35 million in losses and loss expenses in 2011 compared to 2010 included:

a decrease of \$72 million in losses and loss expenses related to Deepwater Horizon; and

a decrease of approximately \$16 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from a decrease in the book of business and exposure, which was partially offset by a higher level of mid-sized loss activity and the impact of declining profitability of the business in certain lines of business between periods; partially offset by

a decrease of \$42 million in net favorable prior year loss development. The decrease in net favorable prior year loss development in 2011 compared to 2010 was due to the increase in upward premium adjustments reported by cedants; and

an increase of \$11 million related to large catastrophic losses. 2010 compared to 2009

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2010 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Chile Earthquake of \$54 million, or 3.9 points on the loss ratio;

losses and loss expenses related to Deepwater Horizon of \$72 million, or 5.0 points on the loss ratio;

the inclusion of losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$171 million, or 12.2 points on the loss ratio;

lower loss estimates in the credit/surety line of business reflecting abating economic and credit conditions;

a higher level of mid-sized loss activity;

increasing loss trends in the specialty casualty line of business; and

an increase in the book of business and exposure.

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

The net favorable loss development of \$171 million reported in 2010 included net favorable development for prior accident years in all lines of business, except for the specialty casualty line, which experienced adverse loss development for prior accident years of \$37 million. Loss information provided by cedants in 2010 for prior accident years was lower than the Company expected (higher for specialty casualty) and included no individually significant losses or reductions but a series of attritional losses or reductions. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratios for all lines of business (increased for specialty casualty), which had the net effect of decreasing (increasing for specialty casualty) prior year loss estimates.

The increase of \$253 million in losses and loss expenses in 2010 compared to 2009 included:

an increase in losses and loss expenses of \$126 million related to large catastrophic losses and Deepwater Horizon; and

93

an increase in losses and loss expenses of approximately \$190 million resulting from an increase in losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re, a higher level of mid-sized loss activity, an increase in the book of business and exposure and increasing loss trends in the specialty casualty line of business, partially offset by lower loss estimates in the credit/surety line of business and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods; partially offset by

an increase of \$63 million in net favorable prior year loss development.

Acquisition costs and acquisition ratio

2011 compared to 2010

Acquisition costs and the acquisition ratio increased in 2011 compared to 2010 primarily due to higher profit commission adjustments reported by cedants in the credit/surety line of business, and a shift in the mix of business towards the credit/surety line of business and towards proportional business, which generally carry relatively higher acquisition ratios. The increase in acquisition costs was partially offset by the impact of modestly lower net premiums earned in 2011 compared to 2010.

2010 compared to 2009

Acquisition costs increased in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily as a result of higher net premiums earned. The acquisition ratio decreased primarily due to a shift from proportional to non-proportional business, which carries a lower acquisition cost ratio.

Technical result and technical ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The decrease of \$30 million in the technical result and the corresponding increase in the technical ratio in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily attributable to a decrease of \$42 million in net favorable prior year loss development, a higher level of mid-sized loss activity, higher acquisition costs, and modestly declining profitability in certain lines of business. These decreases in the technical result were partially offset by a decrease in large catastrophic losses and losses and loss expenses related to Deepwater Horizon of \$59 million, net of retrocession and reinstatement premiums.

2010 compared to 2009

The slight decrease in the technical result and corresponding increase in the technical ratio in 2010 compared to 2009 was due to an increase in losses and loss expenses of \$124 million, net of reinstatement premiums, related to large catastrophic losses and Deepwater Horizon, increasing loss trends in the specialty casualty line of business, a higher level of mid-sized loss activity and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods, partially offset by an increase of \$63 million in net favorable prior year loss development and lower loss estimates in the credit/surety line of business.

2012 Outlook

During the January 1, 2012 renewals, the Company generally observed a fragmented market with meaningful improvements on loss-affected business and catastrophe exposed zones, and most other lines showing minor improvement or holding steady. Overall, the expected premium volume from the Company s January 1, 2012 renewal, at constant foreign exchange rates, increased compared to the prior year renewal as a result of the Company writing new business and increasing its participation on certain existing treaties. Management expects a continuation of the observed trends in pricing and terms and conditions during the remainder of 2012.

Catastrophe

The Catastrophe sub-segment writes business predominantly on a non-proportional basis and is exposed to volatility resulting from catastrophic losses. Thus, profitability in any one year is not necessarily predictive of future profitability. The results for 2011, 2010 and 2009 demonstrate this volatility. The results for 2011 contained a significantly higher level of losses related to the 2011 catastrophic events, and the results for 2010 included a large level of catastrophic losses related to the Chile Earthquake and 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, while the results for 2009 included no large catastrophic losses. The varying amounts of catastrophic losses significantly impacted the technical result and ratio and affected year over year comparisons as discussed below.

The following table provides the components of the technical result and the corresponding ratios for this sub-segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Gross premiums written	\$ 599	(16)%	\$ 716	79%	\$ 400
Net premiums written	562	(13)	646	63	397
Net premiums earned	\$ 574	(15)	\$ 672	43	\$ 470
Losses and loss expenses	(1,459)	271	(393)	NM	(6)
Acquisition costs	(26)	(47)	(49)	49	(33)
Technical result	\$ (911)	NM	\$ 230	(47)	\$ 431
Loss ratio	254.2%		58.5%		1.3%
Acquisition ratio	4.5		7.2		7.0
•					
Technical ratio	258.7%		65.7%		8.3%

NM: not meaningful

Premiums

The Catastrophe sub-segment represented 13%, 14% and 10% of total net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The decrease in the Catastrophe sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 reflects a significant reduction in the portfolio and exposure, which is almost entirely offset by decreases in net premiums written in the Company s other Non-life sub-segments. The increase in the Catastrophe sub-segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums written for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009.

2011 compared to 2010

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned decreased by 16%, 13%, 15%, respectively, in 2011 compared to 2010. The decreases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were primarily due to the Company s decision to reduce certain catastrophe exposures and reposition its portfolio following the integration of Paris Re s business, and were partially offset by new business written, reinstatement premiums related to the 2011 catastrophic events, increases in certain treaty participations and the impact of the weaker U.S. dollar in 2011 compared to 2010. Foreign exchange fluctuations increased gross and net premiums written by 2% and net premiums earned by 4%.

2010 compared to 2009

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned increased by 79%, 63% and 43%, respectively, in 2010 compared to 2009. The increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned resulted mainly from the inclusion of catastrophe business written by Paris Re, which is included in this sub-segment s results for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The increase in gross and net

95

premiums written was also due to new business written as well as a timing difference related to the renewal of a significant treaty. The increase in net premiums earned was lower than the increases in gross and net premiums written primarily due to the earning of premiums in the fourth quarter of 2009 related to Paris Re s business that was written prior to the date of acquisition.

Losses and loss expenses and loss ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2011 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Japan Earthquake, the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes, U.S. tornadoes, Australian Floods, Thailand Floods and losses related to aggregate contracts covering losses in Australia and New Zealand of \$1,511 million, or 262.1 points on the loss ratio. The large catastrophic losses of \$1,511 million, include a specific IBNR reserve of \$48 million related to the 2011 catastrophic events, above the sum of the recorded point estimates, given the high frequency of, and uncertainty related to, these complex and volatile events;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$96 million, or 16.8 points on the loss ratio;

a lower level of mid-sized loss activity; and

a decrease in the book of business and exposure.

The net favorable loss development of \$96 million was primarily due to favorable loss emergence, as losses reported by cedants in 2011 for prior accident years were lower than the Company expected. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratio, which had the effect of decreasing the level of prior year loss estimates.

The increase of \$1,066 million in losses and loss expenses in 2011 compared to 2010 included:

an increase of \$1,231 million in large catastrophic losses and losses related to aggregate contracts; partially offset by

an increase of \$52 million in net favorable prior year loss development; and

a decrease of approximately \$113 million in losses and loss expenses resulting from a decrease in losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re, a lower level of mid-sized loss activity and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods. 2010 compared to 2009

The losses and loss expenses and loss ratio reported in 2010 reflected:

large catastrophic losses related to the Chile Earthquake, 2010 New Zealand Earthquake and large losses related to an aggregate contract covering losses in Australia and New Zealand of \$280 million, or 41.2 points on the loss ratio;

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

a higher level of mid-sized loss activity;

net favorable loss development on prior accident years of \$44 million, or 6.5 points on the loss ratio;

the inclusion of losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re; and

an increase in the book of business and exposure.

The net favorable loss development of \$44 million was primarily due to favorable loss emergence, as losses reported by cedants in 2010 for prior accident years were lower than the Company expected. Based on the Company s assessment of this loss information, the Company decreased its expected ultimate loss ratio, which had the effect of decreasing the level of prior year loss estimates.

96

The increase of \$387 million in losses and loss expenses in 2010 compared to 2009 included:

an increase in large catastrophic losses and large losses related to an aggregate contract of \$280 million;

an increase in losses and loss expenses of approximately \$102 million resulting from an increase in losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re, a higher level of mid-sized loss activity and an increase in the book of business and exposure, partially offset by normal fluctuations in profitability between periods; and

a decrease of \$5 million in net favorable prior year loss development.

Acquisition costs and acquisition ratio

2011 compared to 2010

Acquisition costs decreased in 2011 compared to 2010 primarily due to lower profit commissions as a result of the large catastrophic losses and the decrease in net premiums earned. The lower profit commissions also decreased the acquisition ratio in 2011 compared to 2010.

2010 compared to 2009

Acquisition costs increased in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily as a result of higher net premiums earned. The acquisition ratio in 2010 was comparable to 2009.

Technical result and technical ratio

2011 compared to 2010

The decrease of \$1,141 million in the technical result and the corresponding increase in the technical ratio in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily due to an increase of \$1,195 million, net of retrocession, reinstatement premiums and profit commissions, in large catastrophic losses and losses related to aggregate contracts, the decrease in the book of business and exposure and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods. These decreases in the technical result were partially offset by an increase of \$52 million in net favorable prior year loss development, a decrease in losses and loss expenses related to business written by Paris Re and a lower level of mid-sized loss activity.

2010 compared to 2009

The decrease of \$201 million in the technical result and corresponding increase in the technical ratio in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily explained by an increase of \$274 million, net of reinstatement premiums, in large catastrophic losses and losses related to an aggregate contract, a higher level of mid-sized loss activity and a decrease of \$5 million in net favorable prior year loss development. These factors were partially offset by the inclusion of the technical result (before the impact of large catastrophic losses and prior year loss development) related to Paris Re s business and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods.

2012 Outlook

During the January 1, 2012 renewals, the Company observed some significant pricing increases, notably in those regions recently affected by significant loss experience. The expected premium volume from the Company s January 1, 2012 renewal, at constant foreign exchange rates, decreased compared to the prior year renewal primarily as a result of the Company s decision to continue reducing catastrophe exposures and limits in all markets in order to rebalance its portfolio. Management expects a continuation of these reductions in catastrophe exposures and the trends for the remainder of 2012.

Life Segment

The following table provides the components of the allocated underwriting result for this segment (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Gross premiums written	\$ 790	5%	\$ 749	26%	\$ 595
Net premiums written	786	6	742	26	591
Net premiums earned	\$ 792	7	\$ 744	27	\$ 587
Life policy benefits	(650)	4	(624)	42	(440)
Acquisition costs	(117)	1	(116)	3	(113)
Technical result	\$ 25	583	\$ 4	(89)	\$ 34
Other income	1	(62)	2	2	2
Other operating expenses	(53)	(7)	(57)	21	(47)
Net investment income	66	(8)	71	16	62
Allocated underwriting result (1)	\$ 39	94	\$ 20	(60)	\$ 51

⁽¹⁾ Allocated underwriting result is defined as net premiums earned, other income or loss and allocated net investment income less life policy benefits, acquisition costs and other operating expenses.

Premiums

The Life segment represented 18%, 16% and 15% of total net premiums written in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in the Life segment s net premiums written as a percentage of total net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 and 2009 was primarily due to decreases in net premiums written in the Company s Non-life segment, as described above, and also due to new business written in the Life segment, as described below.

2011 compared to 2010

Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned increased by 5%, 6% and 7%, respectively, in 2011 compared to 2010. The increase in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned was primarily due to new business written during 2010 in the longevity line, which is fully reflected in 2011 but was only partially reflected in 2010, as well as new business and growth in the mortality line and the impact of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange fluctuations increased gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned by 4% due to the impact of the weaker U.S. dollar in 2011 compared to 2010. These increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were partially offset by a decrease related to the restructuring of a longevity treaty.

2010 compared to 2009

Gross and net premiums written increased by 26% and net premiums earned increased by 27% in 2010 compared to 2009. The increases in gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned were primarily driven by new business written in the longevity line, and, to a lesser extent, the mortality line.

Allocated underwriting result

2011 compared to 2010

The allocated underwriting result increased by \$19 million, from \$20 million in 2010 to \$39 million in 2011. The increase in the allocated underwriting result was due to a decrease of \$13 million in net adverse prior year loss development, increased profitability generated from new and existing business and a decrease in other operating expenses, which were partially offset by a decrease in net investment income.

98

The decrease in the net adverse prior year loss development of \$13 million in 2011, reflected \$1 million of net favorable prior year loss development in 2011 compared to \$12 million of net adverse prior year loss development in 2010. The modest net favorable prior year loss development of \$1 million in 2011 was the net result of favorable prior year loss development of \$6 million on certain mortality treaties and \$5 million related to the GMDB business, which were almost entirely offset by adverse prior year loss development related to disability riders on certain short-term non-proportional treaties in the mortality line following the receipt of updated information from cedants. The net adverse prior year loss development of \$12 million in 2010 is described below.

Net investment income decreased by \$5 million, from \$71 million in 2010 to \$66 million in 2011 primarily due to a decrease in the funds held balance related to the restructuring of a longevity treaty and lower positive adjustments on funds held contracts reported by cedants.

2010 compared to 2009

The allocated underwriting result decreased by \$31 million, from \$51 million in 2009 to \$20 million in 2010. The decrease in the allocated underwriting result was primarily due to an increase of \$27 million in net adverse prior year loss development and an increase in other operating expenses, which were partially offset by an increase in net investment income and normal fluctuations in profitability between periods.

The increase in the net adverse prior year loss development of \$27 million in 2010, reflected \$12 million of net adverse prior year loss development in 2010 compared to \$15 million of net favorable prior year loss development in 2009. The net adverse prior year loss development of \$12 million in 2010 was primarily driven by adverse development of \$23 million due to an improvement in the mortality trend related to an ILA treaty in the longevity line and adverse development on certain mortality treaties. This adverse development was partially offset by favorable prior year loss development of \$17 million resulting from the GMDB business, where the payout is linked to the performance of underlying capital market assets, driven by new cedant information and updated assumptions. The net favorable prior year loss development of \$15 million in 2009 was mainly driven by the GMDB business.

Other operating expenses increased by \$10 million, from \$47 million in 2009 to \$57 million in 2010 primarily due to higher personnel costs. Net investment income increased by \$9 million, from \$62 million in 2009 to \$71 million in 2010 primarily as a result of positive adjustments on funds held contracts reported by cedants and higher invested assets, partially offset by lower interest rates.

2012 Outlook

The majority of the Life segment premium arises from in-force contracts that are written on a continuous basis. The active January 1 renewals impact a relatively limited portion of the in-force premium and are exclusively contained in the mortality line. For those treaties that actively renewed, pricing conditions and terms were generally unchanged leading to a modest level of cancellations and reductions in treaty participations where the offered terms were considered inadequate. These reductions were largely offset by improved terms on selected existing treaties and new business from both new and existing clients. Management expects moderate continued growth in 2012, assuming constant foreign exchange rates.

99

Total

Table of Contents

Premium Distribution by Line of Business

The distribution of net premiums written by line of business for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Non-life			
Property and casualty			
Casualty	11%	11%	13%
Property	15	18	18
Motor	5	7	6
Multiline and other	2	2	2
Specialty			
Agriculture	7	4	8
Aviation / Space	5	5	5
Catastrophe	13	14	10
Credit / Surety	7	6	6
Energy	2	2	2
Engineering	4	4	5
Marine	6	6	5
Specialty casualty	2	3	3
Specialty property	3	2	2
Life	18	16	15

The changes in the distribution of net premiums written by line of business between 2011, 2010 and 2009 primarily reflected the Company s response to existing market conditions, with the comparison between 2011 and 2010 specifically affected by the repositioning of its portfolio following the integration of Paris Re and the reduction of catastrophe exposed business. The comparison between 2010 and 2009 is specifically affected by the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The distribution of net premiums written may also be affected by the timing of renewals of treaties, a change in treaty structure, premium adjustments reported by cedants and significant increases or decreases in other lines of business. In addition, foreign exchange fluctuations affected the comparison for all lines.

Property: the decrease in the distribution of net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was driven primarily by the effects of the Company s decisions to cancel or reduce business as a result of reductions in pricing and to reposition its portfolio following the integration of Paris Re s business, which included reducing the level of catastrophe exposed business.

100%

100%

100%

125

Agriculture: the increase in the distribution of net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was driven by increased demand, higher agricultural commodity prices and lower downward premium adjustments. The decrease in the distribution of net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to lower commodity prices and higher cedants retentions.

Catastrophe: the decrease in the distribution of net premiums written in 2011 compared to 2010 was driven by the repositioning of the Company s portfolio following the integration of Paris Re, which included reducing the level of catastrophe exposed business. Given the absolute decrease in Catastrophe net premiums written was 13%, the percentage distribution by line of business only decreased by 1% in 2011 compared to 2010 due to significant decreases in other lines of business. The increase in the distribution of net premiums written in 2010 compared to 2009 is primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums, as described above. Paris Re s catastrophe line of business represented a relatively higher percentage of its net premiums written compared to the Company s.

Life: the increase in the distribution of net premiums written between 2011, 2010 and 2009 was primarily due to the decrease in net premiums written in most of the Company s Non-life lines of business and an increase in business written in the longevity and mortality lines, as described above.

2012 Outlook

Based on information received from cedants and brokers during the January 1, 2012 renewals and assuming that similar trends and conditions to those experienced during the January 1, 2012 renewals continue through the year, Management expects a further decrease in the relative distribution of net premiums written to the catastrophe line of business in 2012 compared to 2011, following further reductions in certain catastrophe exposures. Management expects other lines to be broadly comparable to 2011.

Premium Distribution by Reinsurance Type

The Company typically writes business on either a proportional or non-proportional basis. On proportional business, the Company shares proportionally in both the premiums and losses of the cedant. On non-proportional business, the Company is typically exposed to loss events in excess of a predetermined dollar amount or loss ratio. In both proportional and non-proportional business, the Company typically reinsures a large group of primary insurance contracts written by the ceding company. In addition, the Company writes business on a facultative basis. Facultative arrangements are generally specific to an individual risk and can be written on either a proportional or non-proportional basis. Generally, the Company has more influence over pricing, as well as terms and conditions, in non-proportional and facultative arrangements.

The distribution of gross premiums written by reinsurance type for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Non-life segment			
Proportional	47%	47%	55%
Non-proportional	27	31	25
Facultative	9	7	5
Life segment ⁽¹⁾	17	15	15
Total	100%	100%	100%

(1) Substantially all of the Life segment s gross premiums written for all periods presented are proportional.

The distribution of gross premiums written by reinsurance type is affected by changes in the allocation of capacity among lines of business, the timing of receipt by the Company of cedant accounts and premium adjustments by cedants. In addition, foreign exchange fluctuations affected the comparison for all treaty types.

The changes in the distribution of gross premiums written by reinsurance type between 2011 and 2010 primarily reflect a shift from non-proportional business to facultative business in the Non-life segment and a shift in mix from the Non-life segment to the Life segment. The shift from non-proportional to facultative business was driven by a reduction in catastrophe exposed business and new business written and positive premium adjustments in the marine and engineering lines of business. The shift in the mix of business from the Non-life segment to the Life segment results from the decreases in gross premiums written following the cancellation and reduction of business and the repositioning of the Company s portfolio in certain lines of the Non-life segment compared to increases in gross premiums written from the longevity line and mortality lines of business in the Life segment.

The changes in the distribution of gross premiums written by reinsurance type in the Non-life segment between 2010 and 2009 primarily reflected the inclusion of Paris Re s premiums for a full year in 2010 compared

to the fourth quarter only of 2009. The increase in the distribution to non-proportional and facultative in 2010 is due to Paris Re s business, which was comprised of a higher percentage of these treaty types than the Company s other Non-life business. The reduction in the proportional business written in the Non-life segment in 2010 was also driven by the decreases in the agriculture line of business, as described above.

2012 Outlook

Based on renewal information from cedants and brokers, and assuming that similar conditions experienced during the January 1, 2012 renewals continue throughout the year, Management expects a modest shift in the relative distribution of gross premiums written from non-proportional to other treaty types as a result of the Company continuing to reduce its catastrophe exposures.

Premium Distribution by Geographic Region

The following table provides the geographic distribution of gross premiums written based on the location of the underlying risk for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009:

	2011	2010	2009
Europe	41%	43%	41%
North America	36	36	41
Asia, Australia and New Zealand	12	10	8
Latin America, Caribbean and Africa	11	11	10
Total	100%	100%	100%

The decrease in the distribution of gross premiums written in Europe was primarily driven by the cancellation and reduction of business and the repositioning of the Company s portfolio following the integration of Paris Re, and was partially offset by higher gross premiums written in the Company s Life segment and the impact of foreign exchange fluctuations, as premiums denominated in currencies that have appreciated against U.S. dollar were converted into U.S. dollar at higher average exchange rates. While gross premiums written in the Company s North America sub-segment increased in 2011 compared to 2010, the distribution of gross premiums written in North America in 2011 was comparable to 2010 due to the more pronounced increase in the distribution of gross premiums written in Asia, Australia and New Zealand, which was primarily due to reinstatement premiums associated with the Japan Earthquake and the February and June 2011 New Zealand Earthquakes.

2012 Outlook

Based on renewal information from cedants and brokers, and assuming that similar conditions experienced during the January 1, 2012 renewals continue throughout the year and based on constant foreign exchange rates, Management expects the distribution of gross premiums written by geographic region in 2012 to be comparable to 2011.

102

Premium Distribution by Production Source

The Company generates its gross premiums written both through brokers and through direct relationships with cedants. The percentage of gross premiums written by production source for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Broker	72%	73%	72%
Direct	28	27	28
Total	100%	100%	100%

The distribution of gross premiums written by production source was comparable between 2011, 2010 and 2009.

2012 Outlook

Based on renewal information from cedants and brokers, and assuming that similar conditions experienced during the January 1, 2012 renewals continue throughout the year, Management expects the production source of gross premiums written in 2012 to be comparable to 2011.

Corporate and Other

Corporate and Other is comprised of the Company s capital markets and investment related activities, including principal finance transactions, insurance-linked securities and strategic investments, and its corporate activities, including other operating expenses. The year over year comparisons of the investment related and corporate activities are affected by Paris Re s results being included for a full year in 2011 and 2010, compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009.

Net Investment Income

The table below provides net investment income by asset source for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Fixed maturities	\$ 562	(3)%	\$ 580	4%	\$ 559
Short-term investments, cash and cash equivalents	4	(55)	8	(28)	12
Equities	20	(5)	21	50	14
Funds held and other	49	(6)	53	61	33
Funds held directly managed	38	(27)	52	191	18
Investment expenses	(44)	5	(41)	5	(40)
•					
Net investment income	\$ 629	(6)	\$ 673	13	\$ 596

Because of the interest-sensitive nature of some of the Company s Life products, net investment income is considered in Management s assessment of the profitability of the Life segment (see Life segment above). The following discussion includes net investment income from all investment activities, including the net investment income allocated to the Life segment.

2011 compared to 2010

Net investment income decreased in 2011 compared to 2010 primarily due to:

a decrease in net investment income from fixed maturities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents primarily due to lower reinvestment rates, which was partially offset by purchases of higher yielding investments and the reinvestment of cash flows from operations; and

a decrease in net investment income from funds held directly managed primarily related to the lower average balance in the funds held directly managed account, which was related to the release of assets following the Endorsement (see Funds Held Directly Managed below) to the quota share retrocessional agreement with Colisée Re in February 2011 and the run-off of the underlying liabilities. The assets released from the funds held directly managed account were reinvested in the Company s fixed maturity portfolio at lower reinvestment rates; partially offset by

the weakening of the U.S. dollar, on average, in 2011 compared to 2010 which contributed a 1% increase in net investment income. 2010 compared to 2009

Net investment income increased in 2010 compared to 2009 primarily due to:

an increase in net investment income from fixed maturities due to the purchase of higher yielding investments and the reinvestment of cash flows from operations. This increase was partially offset by the sale of fixed maturities to finance the Company s repurchase of common shares of \$1,083 million and to repay debt of \$200 million during 2010;

an increase in net investment income from fixed maturities and from funds held directly managed due to the inclusion of Paris Re s net investment income for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009;

an increase in net investment income on funds held and other as a result of higher investment income reported by cedants and a higher level of other invested assets held in 2010, on average, compared to 2009; and

an increase in net investment income from equities due to a higher level of equity exposures held, on average, in 2010 compared to 2009; partially offset by

lower reinvestment rates, on average, in 2010 compared to 2009.

2012 Outlook

Assuming constant foreign exchange rates, Management expects net investment income to decrease in 2012 compared to 2011 primarily due to lower reinvestment rates with low government yields expected to continue throughout 2012. Management expects this decrease to be partially offset by expected positive cash flow from operations (including net investment income).

Net Realized and Unrealized Investment Gains

The Company s portfolio managers have dual investment objectives of optimizing current investment income and achieving capital appreciation. To meet these objectives, it is often desirable to buy and sell securities to take advantage of changing market conditions and to reposition the

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

investment portfolios. Accordingly, recognition of realized gains and losses is considered by the Company to be a normal consequence of its ongoing investment management activities. In addition, the Company records changes in fair value for substantially all of its investments as unrealized investment gains or losses in its Consolidated Statements of Operations. Realized and unrealized investment gains and losses are generally a function of multiple factors, with the most significant being prevailing interest rates, credit spreads, and equity market conditions.

104

As discussed in Overview above, U.S. and European risk-free interest rates decreased and credit spreads widened, while equity markets remained relatively flat during 2011. In addition to these general economic factors, the Company realized losses on treasury note futures and incurred losses related to certain insurance-linked securities impacted by the Japan Earthquake. The Company uses treasury note futures to manage the duration of its investment portfolio and the realized losses represent the Company reducing the duration of its investment portfolio to protect against the possibility of risk-free interest rates rising. These factors had an impact on the Company s investment portfolio and the related level of realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments compared to 2010, during which U.S. and European risk-free interest rates decreased, equity markets rose and credit spreads declined modestly.

The components of net realized and unrealized investment gains for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Net realized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments	\$ 157	\$ 173	\$ 105
Net realized investment gains (losses) on equities	91	45	(45)
Net realized investment losses on other invested assets	(176)	(68)	(36)
Change in net unrealized investment (losses) gains on other invested assets	(46)	4	58
Change in net unrealized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments	128	143	323
Change in net unrealized investment (losses) gains on equities	(102)	65	186
Net other realized and unrealized investment gains	4	13	2
Net realized and unrealized investment gains (losses) on funds held directly managed	11	27	(2)
Net realized and unrealized investment gains	\$ 67	\$ 402	\$ 591
2011 1, 2010			

2011 compared to 2010

Net realized and unrealized investment gains decreased by \$335 million, from \$402 million in 2010 to \$67 million in 2011. The net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$67 million in 2011 were primarily due to declining U.S. and European risk-free interest rates, which were partially offset by widening credit spreads, realized and unrealized losses on treasury note futures and losses on insurance-linked securities impacted by the Japan Earthquake. Net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$67 million in 2011 primarily consisted of net realized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments and equities of \$248 million and the change in net unrealized investment losses on other invested assets (mainly related to treasury note futures) of \$176 million and the change in net unrealized investment losses on equities and other invested assets of \$148 million.

Net realized and the change in net unrealized investment losses on other invested assets were a combined loss of \$222 million in 2011 and primarily related to realized and unrealized losses on treasury note futures, net realized and unrealized losses on certain non-publicly traded investments, and a realized loss on insurance-linked derivative securities impacted by the Japan Earthquake. Net realized investment losses and the change in net unrealized investment gains on other invested assets were a combined loss of \$64 million in 2010 and primarily related to losses on treasury note futures, which were partially offset by unrealized gains on certain non-publicly traded investments and net realized and unrealized gains on total return swaps.

Net realized and unrealized investment gains on funds held directly managed of \$11 million and \$27 million in 2011 and 2010, respectively, primarily related to net realized and the change in net unrealized investment gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments in the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account and were due to decreases in U.S. and European risk-free interest rates.

105

2010 compared to 2009

Net realized and unrealized investment gains decreased by \$189 million, from \$591 million in 2009 to \$402 million in 2010. The net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$402 million in 2010 were primarily due to lower U.S. and European risk-free interest rates, increases in worldwide equity markets and modestly narrower credit spreads. Net realized and unrealized investment gains of \$402 million in 2010 consisted of net realized investment gains on fixed maturities, short-term investments and equities of \$218 million, the change in net unrealized investment gains on fixed maturities, short-term investments, equities and other invested assets of \$212 million, net realized and unrealized investment gains on funds held directly managed and net other realized and unrealized gains of \$40 million, which were partially offset by net realized losses on other invested assets of \$68 million.

Net realized losses and the change in net unrealized gains on other invested assets were a combined loss of \$64 million in 2010 primarily related to realized and unrealized losses on treasury note futures, which were partially offset by net unrealized gains on certain non-publicly traded investments and net realized and unrealized gains on total return swaps. The change in net unrealized gains and net realized losses on other invested assets were a combined gain of \$22 million in 2009 and primarily related to net unrealized gains on total return swaps and treasury note futures and net realized gains on equity futures, which were partially offset by realized losses on treasury note futures and credit default swaps.

Net realized and unrealized investment gains on funds held directly managed of \$27 million in 2010 primarily relate to changes in unrealized gains on fixed maturities and short-term investments in the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account and were due to decreases in risk-free rates.

Interest in (Losses) Earnings of Equity Investments

The interest in the results of equity investments represents the Company s aggregate share of earnings or losses related to several private placement investments and limited partnerships in which the Company has more than a minor interest.

2011 compared to 2010

The Company s interest in the results of equity investments decreased from a gain of \$13 million in 2010 to a loss of \$6 million in 2011 primarily due to net unrealized and realized losses and write-downs on several unrelated private placement and limited partnership investments.

2010 compared to 2009

The Company s interest in the results of equity investments was \$13 million in 2010 compared to \$16 million in 2009.

Technical Result and Other Income

Technical result and other income included in Corporate and Other primarily relates to certain insurance-linked securities and principal finance transactions.

2011 compared to 2010

Technical result and other income included in Corporate and Other was \$9 million combined in 2011, compared to \$3 million combined in 2010. The increase of \$6 million in 2011 compared to 2010 was primarily related to an increase in the technical result for insurance-linked securities and was driven by a higher level of net premiums earned.

106

2010 compared to 2009

Technical result and other income included in Corporate and Other was \$3 million combined in 2010, compared to \$17 million combined in 2009. The decrease of \$14 million in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily related to a decline in the technical result for insurance-linked securities and was driven by lower net premiums earned and a lower level of net favorable prior year loss development.

Other Operating Expenses

The Company s total other operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	% Change	2010	% Change	2009
Other operating expenses	\$ 435	(19)%	\$ 540	25%	\$ 431

Other operating expenses represent 9.4%, 11.3% and 10.5% of net premiums earned (both Non-life and Life) for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Other operating expenses included in Corporate and Other were \$99 million, \$166 million and \$131 million, of which \$83 million, \$151 million and \$117 million are related to corporate activities for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

2011 compared to 2010

Other operating expenses decreased by 19% in 2011 compared to 2010. The decrease was primarily due to a charge of \$41 million in 2010 related to the Company s voluntary plan, lower personnel costs (including lower share-based compensation expenses) and lower costs related to Paris Re s operations following its integration into the Company s operations. These decreases in other operating expenses were partially offset by foreign exchange fluctuations, which increased other operating expenses by 5% due to the weakening of the U.S. dollar in 2011 compared to 2010.

2010 compared to 2009

The increase in other operating expenses of 25% in 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily due to the inclusion of Paris Re s operating expenses for a full year in 2010 compared to the fourth quarter only of 2009, a charge of \$41 million in 2010 related to the Company s voluntary plan, and increased personnel expenses, which were partially offset by lower consulting and professional fees related to the Paris Re acquisition.

Income Taxes

The Company s effective income tax rate, which we calculate as income tax expense or benefit divided by net income or loss before taxes, may fluctuate significantly from period to period depending on the geographic distribution of pre-tax net income or loss in any given period between different jurisdictions with comparatively higher tax rates and those with comparatively lower tax rates. The geographic distribution of pre-tax net income or loss can vary significantly between periods due to, but not limited to, the following factors: the business mix of net premiums written and earned; the geographic location, quantum and nature of net losses and loss expenses incurred; the quantum and geographic location of other operating expenses, net investment income, net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses; and the quantum of specific adjustments to determine the income tax basis in each of the Company s operating jurisdictions. In addition, a significant portion of the Company s gross and net premiums are currently written and earned in Bermuda, a non-taxable jurisdiction, including the majority of the Company s catastrophe business, which can result in significant volatility to the Company s pre-tax net income or loss in any given period.

107

The Company s income tax expense and effective income tax rate for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Income tax expense	\$ 69	\$ 129	\$ 262
Effective income tax rate	(15.3)%	13.1%	14.6%
2011 compared to 2010			

Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2011 were \$69 million and (15.3)%, respectively. Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2011 were primarily driven by the geographic distribution of the Company s pre-tax net loss between its various taxable and non-taxable jurisdictions. Specifically, the income tax expense and the effective income tax rate included a significant portion of the Company s pre-tax net loss recorded in non-taxable jurisdictions and jurisdictions with comparatively lower tax rates with no associated tax benefit, which were driven by the large catastrophic losses described in the Review of Net (Loss) Income. The Company s taxable jurisdictions recorded pre-tax net income and an income tax expense, which resulted from a relatively low level of catastrophe losses and realized and unrealized investment gains. The income tax expense recorded by the Company s taxable jurisdictions was partially offset by the recognition of a tax benefit during 2011 related to the expiration of the statute of limitations of uncertain tax positions following the completion of certain tax examinations.

Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2010 were \$129 million and 13.1%, respectively. Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2010 were driven by the geographic distribution of the Company s pre-tax net income between its various taxable and non-taxable jurisdictions. Specifically, the income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2010, included a relatively even distribution of the Company s pre-tax net income between its various jurisdictions. The Company s taxable jurisdictions recorded significant realized and unrealized investment gains, which were partially offset by significant catastrophe losses related to the Chile Earthquake and the 2010 New Zealand Earthquake, losses related to Deepwater Horizon, and charges related to the Company s voluntary plan. The Company s non-taxable jurisdictions benefitted from comparatively lower levels of catastrophe losses and realized and unrealized investment gains.

2010 compared to 2009

Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2010 were \$129 million and 13.1%, respectively, and were primarily driven by the geographic distribution of the Company s pre-tax net income between its various taxable and non-taxable jurisdictions, as described above.

Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2009 were \$262 million and 14.6%, respectively. Income tax expense and the effective income tax rate during 2009 were primarily driven by the geographic distribution of the Company s pre-tax net income between its various taxable and non-taxable jurisdictions. Specifically, the income tax expense and the effective income tax rate included a relatively even distribution of the Company s pre-tax net income between its various jurisdictions. The Company s non-taxable and taxable jurisdictions recorded a significant level of pre-tax net income, in the absence of significant catastrophe losses, and the taxable jurisdictions recorded a significant level of net realized and unrealized investment gains.

Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company purchased, as part of its acquisition of Paris Re, an investment portfolio and a funds held directly managed account. The discussion of the acquired Paris Re investment portfolio is included in the discussion of Investments below. The discussion of the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account is included separately in Funds Held Directly Managed below.

108

Investments

Investment philosophy

The Company employs a prudent investment philosophy. It maintains a high quality, well balanced and liquid portfolio having the dual objectives of optimizing current investment income and achieving capital appreciation. The Company s invested assets are comprised of total investments, cash and cash equivalents and accrued investment income. From a risk management perspective, the Company allocates its invested assets into two categories: liability funds and capital funds.

Liability funds (including funds held directly managed) represent invested assets supporting the net reinsurance liabilities, defined as the Company s operating and reinsurance liabilities net of reinsurance assets, and are invested primarily in high quality fixed income securities. The preservation of liquidity and protection of capital are the primary investment objectives for these assets. The portfolio managers are required to adhere to investment guidelines as to minimum ratings and issuer and sector concentration limitations. Liability funds are invested in a way that generally matches them to the corresponding liabilities (referred to as asset-liability matching) in terms of both duration and major currency composition to provide the Company with a natural hedge against changes in interest and foreign exchange rates. In addition, the Company utilizes certain derivatives to further protect against changes in interest and foreign exchange rates.

Capital funds represent shareholder capital of the Company and are invested in a diversified portfolio with the objective of maximizing investment return, subject to prudent risk constraints. Capital funds contain most of the asset classes typically viewed as offering a higher risk and higher return profile, subject to risk assumption and portfolio diversification guidelines which include issuer and sector concentration limitations. Capital funds may be invested in investment grade and below investment grade fixed income securities, preferred and common stocks, private placement equity and bond investments, emerging markets and high-yield fixed income securities and certain other specialty asset classes. The Company believes that an allocation of a portion of its investments to equities is both prudent and desirable, as it helps to achieve broader asset diversification (lower risk) and maximizes the portfolio s total return over time.

At December 31, 2011, the liability funds totaled \$11.2 billion (including funds held directly managed), or 62% of the Company s total invested assets, compared to \$10.6 billion at December 31, 2010. The liability funds were comprised of cash and cash equivalents and high quality fixed income securities. The increase in the liability funds at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010 reflects the increase in unpaid losses and loss expenses, which was driven by the 2011 catastrophic events.

At December 31, 2011, the capital funds totaled \$6.9 billion, or 38% of Company s total invested assets, and were generally comprised of the assets listed above, with 45% invested in investment grade fixed income securities.

The Company s investment strategy allows for the use of derivative instruments, subject to strict limitations. The Company utilizes various derivative instruments such as treasury note and equity futures contracts, credit default swaps, foreign currency option contracts, foreign exchange forward contracts, total return and interest rate swaps, insurance-linked securities and to-be-announced mortgage-backed securities (TBAs) for the purpose of managing and hedging currency risk, market exposure and portfolio duration, hedging certain investments, mitigating the risk associated with underwriting operations, or enhancing investment performance that would be allowed under the Company s investment policy if implemented in other ways. The use of financial leverage, whether achieved through derivatives or margin borrowing, requires approval from the Risk and Finance Committee of the Board.

109

Overview

Total investments and cash were \$16.6 billion at December 31, 2011 compared to \$16.4 billion at December 31, 2010. The major factors influencing the increase during 2011 were:

net cash provided by operating activities of \$574 million;

net proceeds of \$362 million, after underwriting discounts, commissions and other related expenses of \$12 million, related to the issuance of the Series E preferred shares (see Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of Part II of this report and Contractual Obligations and Commitments and Shareholders Equity and Capital Resources Management below); and

realized and unrealized gains related to the investment portfolio of \$56 million primarily resulting from an increase in the fixed maturity and short-term investment portfolios of \$285 million, reflecting lower U.S. and European risk-free interest rates, which were partially offset by widening credit spreads. These realized and unrealized gains were reduced by decreases in other invested assets and the equity portfolio of \$233 million, primarily driven by realized losses on treasury note futures (see discussion related to duration below); partially offset by

repurchases of the Company s common shares of \$396 million;

dividend payments on common and preferred shares totaling \$206 million; and

various factors, the primary one being the effect of a stronger U.S. dollar at December 31, 2011 relative to most major currencies, resulting in the conversion of non-U.S. dollar invested assets into U.S. dollars at lower exchange rates, amounting to approximately \$169 million.

Trading securities

The Company has elected the fair value option for substantially all of its invested assets, including all of Paris Re s fixed maturities, short-term investments and other invested assets. The market value of fixed maturities, short-term investments and equities classified as trading securities (excluding funds held directly managed) was \$14.9 billion at December 31, 2011 compared to \$13.9 billion at December 31, 2010. Trading securities are carried at fair value with changes in fair value included in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. In addition, the market value of the Company s other invested assets was \$358 million at December 31, 2011 compared to \$352 million at December 31, 2010. The Company s other invested assets and the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account are discussed separately below.

At December 31, 2011, approximately 93% of the Company s fixed income and short-term investments, which includes fixed income type mutual funds, were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent) and 94% were publicly traded. The average credit quality of the Company s fixed income and short-term investments at December 31, 2011 was AA, comparable to the position at December 31, 2010. The average credit quality at December 31, 2011 reflects the impact of Standard & Poor s decision in August 2011 to downgrade U.S. government securities and other securities that carry either an explicit or implicit guarantee of the U.S. government from AAA to AA+ (the downgrade of U.S. government securities). While other ratings agencies did not take a similar rating action, it is the Company s policy to use Standard & Poor s ratings, when available, to rate its investments. The Company does not believe that the downgrade of U.S. government securities increased the risk level of its investment portfolio, with U.S. treasuries still generally considered to be a proxy for a risk-free investment.

On January 13, 2012, Standard & Poor s announced credit downgrades of nine European sovereign governments (the Eurozone downgrade). The Eurozone downgrade did not have a significant impact on the Company s investment portfolio with the average credit quality remaining at AA, comparable to the position at December 31, 2011. While other rating agencies did not take similar action, it is the Company s policy to use

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Standard & Poor s ratings, when available, to rate its investments. See Ratings Distribution below for further discussion of the impact of the Eurozone downgrade.

110

The average duration of the Company s investment portfolio was 2.9 years at December 31, 2011, comparable to 3.0 years at December 31, 2010. For the purposes of managing portfolio duration, the Company uses exchange traded treasury note futures. The use of treasury note futures reduced the duration of its investment portfolio from 3.5 years to 2.9 years at December 31, 2011, and reflects the Company s decision to hedge against risk-free interest rates potentially rising.

The average yield to maturity on fixed maturities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents was 2.4% at December 31, 2011, compared to 2.9% at December 31, 2010. The decrease in the average yield to maturity at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010 reflects declining U.S. and European risk-free rates, which were partially offset by widening credit spreads.

The Company s investment portfolio generated a positive total accounting return (calculated based on the carrying value of all investments in local currency) of 4.2% and 6.4% for years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The lower total accounting return in the year ended December 31, 2011 was mainly due to a relatively lower level of risk-free rates compared to 2010, and relatively flat equity markets in 2011 compared to improving worldwide equity markets in 2010.

The cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses and fair value of fixed maturities, short-term investments and equities classified as trading at December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

		_	ross	Gross	TD. *
December 31, 2011	Cost(1)	_	ealized ains	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Fixed maturities					
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$ 1,085	\$	31	\$	\$ 1,116
U.S. states, territories and municipalities	118		6		124
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related	2,807		159	(2)	2,964
Corporate	5,461		319	(33)	5,747
Asset-backed securities	626		12	(4)	634
Residential mortgage-backed securities	3,225		95	(37)	3,283
Other mortgage-backed securities	72		3	(1)	74
Total fixed maturities	13,394		625	(77)	13,942
Short-term investments	42				42
Equities	918		99	(72)	945
Total	\$ 14,354	\$	724	\$ (149)	\$ 14,929

111

December 31, 2010	Cost ⁽¹⁾	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Fixed maturities				
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$ 896	\$ 16	\$ (6)	\$ 906
U.S. states, territories and municipalities	67			67
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related	2,744	83	(8)	2,819
Corporate	5,876	287	(19)	6,144
Asset-backed securities	554	12	(9)	557
Residential mortgage-backed securities	2,228	93	(15)	2,306
Other mortgage-backed securities	30	1	(5)	26
Total fixed maturities	12,395	492	(62)	12,825
Short-term investments	49			49
Equities	943	147	(18)	1,072
Total	\$ 13,387	\$ 639	\$ (80)	\$ 13,946

(1) Cost is amortized cost for fixed maturities and short-term investments and cost for equity securities. For investments acquired from Paris Re, cost is based on the fair value at the date of acquisition and subsequently adjusted for amortization of fixed maturities and short-term investments

The fair value of the Company s fixed maturities increased by \$1.1 billion from \$12.8 billion at December 31, 2010 to \$13.9 billion at December 31, 2011. The increase in the Company s fixed maturities is predominantly in the residential mortgage-backed securities and U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises categories, which have increased by \$977 million and \$210 million, respectively, at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010. The increases primarily reflect the reallocation of a portion of the Company s cash and cash equivalents to the investment portfolio. In addition, the increase in residential mortgage-backed securities, and the corresponding decrease in corporate securities, at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010, reflects a rebalancing of the portfolio and an increased allocation to residential mortgage-backed securities given they provide a higher return than U.S. treasuries, while still being backed by U.S. government agencies.

The U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises category includes U.S. treasuries and U.S. government agency securities which accounted for 98% and 2%, respectively, of this category at December 31, 2011. The U.S. treasuries are not rated, however, they are generally considered to have a credit quality equivalent to or greater than AA+ corporate issues. At December 31, 2011, 68% of U.S. government agency securities, although not specifically rated, are generally considered to have a credit quality equivalent to AA+ corporate issues. The remaining 32% of U.S. government agency securities at December 31, 2011 were rated AA.

The U.S. states, territories and municipalities category includes obligations of U.S. states, territories, or counties. At December 31, 2011, 10% of securities in this category were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent), with the remaining 90% not rated.

The non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related category includes obligations of non-U.S. sovereign governments, political subdivisions, agencies and supranational debt. At December 31, 2011, 82%, 15% and 3% of this category was rated AAA, AA and A, respectively. Non-U.S. sovereign government obligations comprised 85% of this category, of which 91% were rated AAA. The largest three issuers (Germany, Canada and France) accounted for 81% of non-U.S. sovereign government obligations at December 31, 2011, with the next four largest issuers (Belgium, Singapore, Austria and the Netherlands) accounting for 18% of the remaining 19% of non-U.S. sovereign government obligations. At December 31, 2011, the remaining 15% of this category was comprised of investment grade Canadian government related obligations, non-U.S. government agency obligations (related to France, Canada and South Korea) and non-U.S. government supranational debt

Table of Contents

139

representing 11%, 3% and 1% of the total, respectively. If the Eurozone downgrade had occurred at December 31, 2011, the impact on the non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related category would have been to decrease the AAA credit quality of this category from 82% to 58%, with a corresponding increase in AA credit quality from 15% to 39%.

At December 31, 2011, the Company did not have any investments in securities issued by peripheral European Union (EU) sovereign governments (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain). At December 31, 2011, the Company had investments of \$1.8 billion in other EU sovereign governments (including \$7 million of investments in the short-term investments category), comprised of \$879 million, \$579 million, \$194 million, \$79 million and \$54 million of German, French, Belgian, Austrian and Dutch sovereign government obligations, respectively, with no other EU sovereign government issuer comprising more than \$15 million, less than 1% of the Company s total EU sovereign government obligations. In addition to its EU sovereign government exposure, the Company also held \$61 million of debt issued by French government agencies.

Corporate bonds are comprised of obligations of U.S. and foreign corporations. At December 31, 2011, 95% of these investments were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent), while 67% were rated A- or better. At December 31, 2011, the ten largest issuers accounted for 17% of the corporate bonds held by the Company (6% of total investments and cash) and no single issuer accounted for more than 3% of total corporate bonds (1% of total investments and cash). At December 31, 2011, U.S. bonds comprised 63% of this category and no other country accounted for more than 8% of this category. The main exposures by economic sector were 23% in finance (11% were banks), 14% in consumer noncyclical and 10% in each of communications and utilities. Within the finance sector, 99% of corporate bonds were rated investment grade and 85% were rated A- or better at December 31, 2011.

At December 31, 2011, the Company s corporate bond portfolio included \$393 million of European government guaranteed corporate debt, comprised of \$261 million, \$79 million, \$47 million and \$6 million corporate bonds guaranteed by the Dutch, German, Austrian and Danish governments, respectively. At December 31, 2011, the Company did not hold any government guaranteed corporate debt issued in peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain).

At December 31, 2011, the Company s corporate bond portfolio (excluding government guaranteed corporate debt) includes \$1.3 billion of corporate bonds issued by companies in the finance sector. Included within this were \$127 million of corporate bonds issued by companies in the EU finance sector, comprised of \$56 million, \$14 million, \$13 million, \$12 million and \$8 million of British, French, Danish, Dutch and German finance sector corporate bonds, respectively. Of the remaining EU finance sector corporate bonds, no single country accounts for more than 1% of the Company s total finance sector corporate bond exposure. At December 31, 2011, the Company held less than \$23 million in total of finance sector corporate bonds issued by companies in peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain).

The asset-backed securities category includes U.S. asset-backed securities, which accounted for 70% at December 31, 2011. Of the U.S. asset-backed securities, 35% were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent) and 65% were not rated. Non-U.S. asset-backed securities accounted for the remainder of this category, all of which were rated A- or higher by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent).

Residential mortgage-backed securities includes U.S. residential mortgage-backed securities, which accounted for 93% of this category at December 31, 2011. These securities generally have a low risk of default and 97% of the U.S. residential mortgage-backed securities are backed by U.S. government agencies, which set standards on the mortgages before accepting them into the program. Although these U.S. government backed agency securities do not carry a formal rating, they are generally considered to have a credit quality equivalent to or greater than AA+ corporate issues. They are considered prime mortgages and the major risk is uncertainty of the timing of prepayments. While there have been market concerns regarding sub-prime mortgages, the Company

113

did not have direct exposure to these types of securities in its own portfolio at December 31, 2011, other than \$22 million of investments in distressed asset vehicles (included in other invested assets). At December 31, 2011, the Company s U.S. residential mortgage-backed securities included approximately \$212 million (7% of U.S. residential mortgage-backed securities) of collateralized mortgage obligations, where the Company deemed the entry point and price of the investment to be attractive. At December 31, 2011, the remaining 7% of this category was comprised of non-U.S. residential mortgage-backed securities, of which 86% were rated AAA and substantially all (more than 99%) were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent).

Other mortgaged-backed securities includes U.S. commercial mortgage-backed securities and non-U.S. commercial mortgage backed securities, which accounted for 79% and 21% of this category at December 31, 2011, respectively. Approximately 97% of this category was rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent).

Short-term investments consisted of non-U.S. sovereign government obligations, U.S. treasuries and U.S. corporate bonds which accounted for 70%, 19% and 11%, respectively, of this category at December 31, 2011. The non-U.S. sovereign government obligations were primarily related to Canada, France, and Singapore and were rated AAA. At December 31, 2011, the U.S. treasuries held were rated AA+ and the U.S. corporate bonds were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent).

Publicly traded common stocks (including public exchange traded funds (ETFs)) comprised 73% of equities at December 31, 2011. The remaining 27% of this category consisted primarily of funds holding fixed income securities, of which 97% (or \$237 million) was comprised of emerging markets funds. Of the publicly traded common stocks and ETFs, U.S. issuers represented 82% at December 31, 2011. At December 31, 2011, the ten largest common stocks accounted for 17% of equities (excluding equities held in ETFs and funds holding fixed income securities) and no single common stock issuer accounted for more than 3% of total equities (excluding equities held in ETFs and funds holding fixed income securities) or more than 1% of the Company s total investments and cash. At December 31, 2011, the largest publicly traded common stock exposures by economic sector were 19% in consumer noncyclical, 13% in energy, 12% in finance, 11% in technology and 10% in communications. At December 31, 2011, the Company did not have any exposure to equities issued by finance sector institutions based in the peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain).

Maturity Distribution

The distribution of fixed maturities and short-term investments at December 31, 2011, by contractual maturity date, is shown below (in millions of U.S. dollars). Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because certain borrowers have the right to call or prepay certain obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

December 31, 2011	Cost	Fair Value
One year or less	\$ 566	\$ 571
More than one year through five years	4,793	4,923
More than five years through ten years	3,472	3,713
More than ten years	682	786
Subtotal	9,513	9,993
Mortgage/asset-backed securities	3,923	3,991
Total	\$ 13,436	\$ 13,984

114

Ratings Distribution

The following table provides a breakdown of the credit quality of the Company s fixed maturities and short-term investments at December 31, 2011:

Rating Category	% of total
AAA	25%
AA	37
A	21
BBB	11
Below investment grade/Unrated	6

Total 100%

The decrease in the Company s AAA rated securities, as a percentage of its total fixed income and short-term investments portfolio, from 51% at December 31, 2010 to 25% at December 31, 2011, and the corresponding increase in AA rated securities from 9% at December 31, 2010 to 37% at December 31, 2011, largely reflects the downgrade of U.S. government securities in August 2011, as discussed above. The overall average credit quality of the Company s fixed income and short-term investments portfolio at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was AA.

If the Eurozone downgrade had occurred at December 31, 2011, the impact on the credit quality of the Company s investment portfolio would have been to decrease the AAA credit quality from 25% to 20%, and increase the AA credit quality from 37% to 42%. The overall average credit quality of the Company s investment portfolio at December 31, 2011 would have remained at AA.

Other Invested Assets

At December 31, 2011, the Company s other invested assets totaled \$358 million. The Company s other invested assets consisted primarily of investments in asset-backed securities, non-publicly traded companies, notes receivable, loans receivable, private placement equity and bond investments, and other specialty asset classes. These assets, together with the Company s derivative financial instruments that were in a net unrealized gain or loss position at December 31, 2011, are reported within other invested assets in the Company s Consolidated Balance Sheets.

At December 31, 2011, the Company s principal finance activities included \$168 million of investments classified as other invested assets, which were comprised primarily of asset-backed securities, notes receivable, loans receivable, total return, interest rate and credit default swaps (which are accounted for as derivative financial instruments), and private placement equity investments. At December 31, 2011, the carrying value of the Company s investment in asset-backed securities, notes receivable, loans receivable and private placement equity investments was \$100 million, \$46 million, \$21 million and \$3 million, respectively, and were partially offset by the combined fair value of total return, interest rate and credit default swaps which was an unrealized loss of \$2 million.

For total return swaps within the principal finance portfolio, the Company uses internal valuation models to estimate the fair value of these derivatives and develops assumptions that require significant judgment, such as the timing of future cash flows, credit spreads and the general level of interest rates. For interest rate swaps, the Company uses externally modeled quoted prices that use observable market inputs. At December 31, 2011, the fair value of the Company s assumed exposure in the form of total return swaps and interest rate swaps was an unrealized gain of \$7 million and an unrealized loss of \$8 million, respectively. At December 31, 2011, the notional value of the Company s assumed exposure in the form of total return swaps was \$116 million.

At December 31, 2011, 59% of the Company s principal finance total return and interest rate swap portfolio was related to tax advantaged real estate income, 38% was related to apparel and retail future flow income or intellectual property backed transactions, for which the underlying investments were rated investment grade, and the remainder of the portfolio was distributed over a number of generally unrelated risks.

For credit default swaps within the principal finance portfolio, the Company uses externally modeled quoted prices that use observable market inputs to estimate the fair value. At December 31, 2011, the fair value of the Company s assumed exposure in the form of credit default swaps was insignificant and the notional value was \$13 million.

The Company continues to utilize credit default swaps to mitigate the risk associated with certain of its underwriting obligations, most notably in the credit/surety line, to replicate investment positions or to manage market exposures and to reduce the credit risk for specific fixed maturities in its investment portfolio. The counterparties to the Company s credit default swaps are all highly rated financial institutions, rated A- or better by Standard & Poor s at December 31, 2011. The Company uses externally modeled quoted prices that use observable market inputs to estimate the fair value of these swaps. Excluding the credit default swaps within the principal finance portfolio described above, the fair value of these credit default swaps was insignificant at December 31, 2011, and the notional value was comprised of \$95 million of credit protection purchased and \$5 million of credit exposure assumed.

The Company has entered into various weather derivatives and longevity total return swaps for which the underlying risks reference parametric weather risks and longevity risks, respectively. The Company uses internal valuation models to estimate the fair value of these derivatives and develops assumptions that require significant judgment, except for exchange traded weather derivatives. In determining the fair value of exchange traded weather derivatives, the Company uses quoted market prices. At December 31, 2011, the combined fair values of the weather derivatives and the longevity total return swaps was insignificant, while their combined notional values were \$136 million.

The Company has entered into certain indexed commodity futures contracts (which are accounted for as derivative financial instruments). The Company uses indexed commodity futures to hedge certain investments and to replicate the investment return on certain benchmarked commodities. The counterparties to the Company s indexed commodity futures contracts are all highly rated financial institutions, rated A- or better by Standard & Poor s at December 31, 2011. The Company uses quoted market prices to estimate the fair value of these contracts. The fair value and the notional value of the indexed commodity futures contracts was an unrealized loss of \$2 million and \$48 million, respectively, at December 31, 2011.

The Company uses exchange traded treasury note futures for the purposes of managing portfolio duration. The Company also uses equity futures to replicate equity investment positions. At December 31, 2011, the fair values of the treasury note and equity futures were insignificant, while the notional values were a net short position of \$2,486 million and insignificant, respectively.

The Company utilizes foreign exchange forward contracts and foreign currency option contracts as part of its overall currency risk management and investment strategies. At December 31, 2011, the combined fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts and foreign currency option contracts was an unrealized gain of \$3 million. The Company utilizes TBAs as part of its overall investment strategy and to enhance investment performance. TBAs represent commitments to purchase future issuances of U.S. government agency mortgage- backed securities. For the period between purchase of a TBA and issuance of the underlying security, the Company s position is accounted for as a derivative. The Company s policy is to maintain designated cash balances at least equal to the amount of outstanding TBA purchases. At December 31, 2011, the fair value of TBAs was insignificant and the notional value was \$104 million.

116

At December 31, 2011, the Company s strategic investments of \$197 million (of which \$179 million were included in other invested assets) includes investments in non-publicly traded companies, private placement equity and bond investments and other specialty asset classes, including the investments in distressed asset vehicles comprised of sub-prime mortgages, which were discussed above in the residential mortgaged-backed securities category of Investments Trading Securities.

At December 31, 2011, the Company s other invested assets did not include any exposure to peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain) and included direct exposure to mutual fund investments in other EU countries of less than \$8 million. The counterparties to the Company s credit default swaps, foreign exchange forward contracts and foreign currency option contracts include British, French, and German finance sector institutions rated A- or better by Standard & Poor s and the Company manages its exposure to individual institutions. The Company also has exposure to the euro related to the utilization of foreign exchange forward contracts and other derivative financial instruments in its hedging strategy (see Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk Foreign Currency Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report).

The Company also had \$9 million of other invested assets at December 31, 2011.

Funds Held Directly Managed

Following Paris Re s acquisition of substantially all of the reinsurance operations of Colisée Re in 2006, Paris Re and its subsidiaries entered into an issuance agreement and a quota share retrocession agreement to assume business written by Colisée Re from January 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007 as well as the in-force business as of December 31, 2005. The agreements provided that the premium related to the transferred business was retained by Colisée Re and credited to a funds held account. The assets underlying the funds held directly managed account are predominantly maintained by Colisée Re in a segregated investment portfolio which is directly managed by the Company. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company and Colisée Re entered into an endorsement to the quota share retrocession agreement (the Endorsement) which resulted in a release of assets of approximately \$358 million from the funds held directly managed account to PartnerRe Europe. The composition of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011 is discussed below. See the discussion in Counterparty Credit Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report.

Substantially all of the investments in the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account are carried at fair value. Realized and unrealized investment gains and losses and net investment income related to this account inure to the benefit of the Company. The Company elected the fair value option as of the Acquisition Date of Paris Re for all of the fixed maturities, short-term investments and certain other invested assets in the segregated investment portfolio underlying this account, and accordingly, all changes in its fair value subsequent to the Acquisition Date are recorded in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

At December 31, 2011, approximately 98% of the fixed income and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account were publicly traded and all were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent). The average credit quality of the fixed income and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account was AA at December 31, 2011 and 2010. The average credit quality reflects the impact of Standard & Poor s decision in August 2011 related to the downgrade of U.S. government securities, as described above. The Eurozone downgrade did not have a significant impact on the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, with the overall average credit quality remaining at AA, comparable to the position at December 31, 2011.

The average duration of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account was 2.7 years at December 31, 2011, compared to 3.1 years at December 31, 2010. The average yield to maturity on fixed maturities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents underlying the funds held directly managed

117

account decreased to 1.7% at December 31, 2011 from 2.4% at December 31, 2010 primarily due to the sale and maturity of higher yielding investments, which were used to finance the release of assets pursuant to the Endorsement and to pay losses related to the run-off of the underlying reserves.

The cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses and fair value of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

D. J. 21 2011		4(1)	Unre	ross ealized	Unre	ross ealized	Fa	
December 31, 2011	C	ost ⁽¹⁾	Ga	ains	L	osses	Val	ue
Fixed maturities								
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$	256	\$	13	\$		\$ 2	269
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related		261		14			2	275
Corporate		470		13		(3)	4	480
Total fixed maturities		987		40		(3)	1,0	024
Short-term investments		18						18
Other invested assets		26				(10)		16
Total	\$ 1	1,031	\$	40	\$	(13)	\$ 1,0)58

December 31, 2010	Cost ⁽¹⁾	Gross Unrealize Gains	ed Ur	Gross realized Losses	Fair Value
Fixed maturities					
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$ 281	\$	8 \$	(1)	\$ 288
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related	378		7		385
Corporate	788	1	4	(3)	799
Mortgage/asset-backed securities	12		2	(2)	12
Total fixed maturities	1,459	3	1	(6)	1,484
Short-term investments	38				38
Other invested assets	25			(4)	21
				. ,	
Total	\$ 1,522	\$ 3	1 \$	(10)	\$ 1,543

⁽¹⁾ Cost is based on the fair value at the date of the acquisition of Paris Re and subsequently adjusted for amortization of fixed maturities and short-term investments.

The decrease in the fair value of the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account of \$485 million, from \$1,543 million at December 31, 2010 to \$1,058 million at December 31, 2011 is primarily related to the release of assets of approximately \$358 million from the funds held directly managed account to PartnerRe Europe pursuant to the Endorsement and is also due to the sale and maturity of investments to pay losses related to the run-off of the underlying reserves. The release of assets and the sale and maturity of investments to pay losses primarily resulted in a decrease in corporate securities, and to a lesser extent, non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related.

In addition to the investments in the above table at December 31, 2011, the funds held directly managed account included cash and cash equivalents of \$176 million, other assets and liabilities of \$20 million and accrued investment income of \$14 million. The other assets and liabilities represent working capital assets held by Colisée Re related to the underlying business. The discussion below focuses on the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account.

The U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises category underlying the funds held directly managed account is comprised of U.S. government agency securities and U.S. treasuries which accounted for 59% and 41% of this category at December 31, 2011, respectively. With the exception of investments totaling \$118 million in U.S. government agency securities, which were rated AA, the remaining U.S. government agency securities and all of the U.S. treasuries, although not specifically rated, are generally considered to have a credit quality equivalent to or greater than AA+ corporate issues.

Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related category includes obligations of non-U.S. sovereign governments, agencies, political subdivisions and supranational debt. Canadian government related obligations comprised 56% of this category, with investment grade non-U.S. government agency obligations, non-U.S. sovereign government obligations, and supranational debt accounting for the remaining 19%, 18% and 7%, respectively. Within the non-U.S. government agency obligations category, 99% related to France, Canada and Austria, and within the non-U.S. sovereign government obligations category, 92% related to France, Austria, Belgium and Germany. At December 31, 2011, 48%, 31% and 21% of this category were rated AAA, AA and A, respectively, by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent). If the Eurozone downgrade had occurred at December 31, 2011, the impact on the non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related category would have been to decrease the AAA credit quality of this category from 48% to 25% with a corresponding increase in the AA credit quality from 31% to 54%.

At December 31, 2011, the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account included less than \$1 million of securities issued by peripheral European Union (EU) sovereign governments (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain). At December 31, 2011, the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account included \$49 million of investments in other EU sovereign governments, comprised of \$21 million, \$10 million, \$8 million and \$6 million of French, Austrian, Belgian and German sovereign government obligations, respectively, with no other EU sovereign government issuer comprising more than \$2 million, or 4% of the total EU sovereign government obligations underlying the funds held directly managed account. In addition to its EU sovereign government obligations, the Company also held \$34 million of debt issued by French and Austrian government agencies.

Corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account are comprised of obligations of U.S. and foreign corporations. At December 31, 2011, all of these investments were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent), while 90% were rated A- or better. At December 31, 2011, the ten largest issuers accounted for 23% of the corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account and no single issuer accounted for more than 4% of corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account (or more than 2% of the investments and cash underlying the funds held directly managed account). At December 31, 2011, U.S. and French bonds comprised 43% and 16%, respectively, of this category and no other country accounted for more than 10% of this category. The main exposures of this category by economic sector were 48% in finance (26% were banks) and 15% in consumer noncyclical. At December 31, 2011, all of the finance sector corporate bonds held were rated investment grade (BBB- or higher) by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent) and 95% were rated A- or better.

At December 31, 2011, corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account included \$15 million of European corporate debt guaranteed by the German, British, Dutch and Swedish governments. At December 31, 2011, the corporate bond portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account did not have any exposure to government guaranteed debt issued by companies in peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain).

At December 31, 2011, corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account (excluding government guaranteed corporate debt) included \$129 million of corporate bonds issued by companies in the EU finance sector, including \$63 million, \$19 million and \$15 million of French, Dutch and British finance sector corporate bonds, respectively. Of the remaining EU finance sector corporate bonds, no single country accounted for more than \$11 million, or 5% of total finance sector corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly

119

managed account. At December 31, 2011, corporate bonds underlying the funds held directly managed account included less than \$26 million in total of finance sector corporate bonds issued by companies in peripheral EU countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain).

Short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, are comprised of Canadian government and Canadian government related obligations which were rated AA- or higher by Standard & Poor s (or estimated equivalent) at December 31, 2011.

Other invested assets underlying the funds held directly managed account consist primarily of real estate fund investments.

Maturity Distribution

The distribution of fixed maturities and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011, by contractual maturity date, is shown below (in millions of U.S. dollars). Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because certain borrowers have the right to call or prepay certain obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

		Fair
December 31, 2011	Cost	Value
One year or less	\$ 227	\$ 227
More than one year through five years	553	573
More than five years through ten years	200	215
More than ten years	25	27
Total	\$ 1,005	\$ 1,042

Ratings Distribution

The following table provides a breakdown of the credit quality of fixed maturities and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account December 31, 2011:

Rating Category	% of total
AAA	22%
AA	50
A	24
BBB	4
Total	100%

The decrease in AAA rated fixed maturities and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account, from 45% at December 31, 2010 to 22% at December 31, 2011, and the corresponding increase in AA rated securities from 27% at December 31, 2010 to 50% at December 31, 2011, largely reflects the downgrade of U.S. government securities in August 2011, as described above. The overall average credit quality of the fixed maturities and short-term investments underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was AA.

If the Eurozone downgrade had occurred at December 31, 2011, the impact on the credit quality of the investment portfolio underlying the funds held—directly managed account would have been to decrease the AAA credit quality from 22% to 16%, and increase the AA credit quality from 50% to 56%. The overall average credit quality of the investment portfolio underlying the funds held—directly managed account at December 31, 2011 would have remained at AA.

120

European exposures

As discussed in Item I of Part I of this report, the Company conducts its operations in various countries and in a variety of non-U.S. denominated currencies. A significant portion of the Company s reinsurance business is conducted with cedants in Europe, with the collection of premiums and the payment of claims denominated in the euro. As described above, the currency composition of the Company s liability funds generally matches the underlying net reinsurance liabilities to protect against changes in foreign exchange rates. Accordingly, the Company s liability funds that are held to match net reinsurance liabilities that are denominated in the euro, expose the Company s investment portfolio and the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account to bonds that are denominated in the euro that are issued by European sovereign governments and government agencies, corporate bonds that are issued by companies in Europe (including those that are also guaranteed by a European sovereign government) and equities issued by companies in Europe.

As a result of the recent uncertainties related to European sovereign government debt exposures, and uncertainties surrounding Europe in general, the Company implemented additional risk management guidelines to reduce and mitigate potential risks arising from these exposures in its investment portfolio and in the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account. These guidelines reflect the Company s response to current conditions and the guidelines may change as the dynamics of the underlying conditions and uncertainties change. The Company s current guidelines include, but are not limited to, the following:

Since the beginning of 2010 the Company has eliminated substantially all of its investment exposure to bonds issued by European sovereign governments in the peripheral countries (Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain);

During the second half of 2011, the Company focused its European sovereign government exposure to five highly-rated countries. These five countries, Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium, and Austria are rated AAA, AA+, AAA, AA and AA+ by Standard & Poor s;

The Company has rebalanced its investment portfolio s to underweight its exposure to corporate bonds issued by companies in the European finance sector, with a bias for holding covered corporate bonds issued by companies in Europe that are backed by cash flows generated from an underlying pool of assets; and

The Company continues to minimize its equity exposures to companies in the finance sector in the peripheral countries and to hold only insignificant and opportunistic equity positions in European companies.

The Company s exposures to European sovereign governments and other European related investment risks are discussed above within each category of the Company s investment portfolio and the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account. In addition, the Company s other investment and derivative exposures to European counterparties are discussed in Other Invested Assets above. See Risk Factors in Item IA of Part I of this report for further discussion on the Company s exposure to the European sovereign debt crisis.

Funds Held by Reinsured Companies (Cedants)

In addition to the funds held directly managed account described above, the Company writes certain business on a funds held basis. The following discussion excludes the funds held directly managed account. Under such contractual arrangements, the cedant retains the net funds that would have otherwise been remitted to the Company and credits the net fund balance with investment income.

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded \$796 million and \$937 million, respectively, of funds held assets in its Consolidated Balance Sheets. The decrease in funds held assets at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010 is primarily related to the restructuring of a longevity treaty from a funds held basis to a swap basis (see Policy Benefits for Life and Annuity Contracts below).

121

At December 31, 2011, the five largest cedants represented 60% of the funds held balance. Approximately 76% of the funds held balance at December 31, 2011 related to contracts that earned investment income based upon a predetermined interest rate, either fixed contractually at the inception of the contract or based upon a recognized market index (e.g., LIBOR). Interest rates ranged from 2.0% to 5.0% for the year ended December 31, 2011. Under these contractual arrangements, there are no specific assets linked to the funds held assets, and the Company is only exposed to the credit risk of the cedant. These arrangements include three of the five cedants with the largest funds held assets, which represented 40% of the Company s total funds held balance.

With respect to the remaining 24% of the funds held balance at December 31, 2011, the Company receives an investment return based upon either the results of a pool of assets held by the cedant, or the investment return earned by the cedant on its entire investment portfolio. This portion of the Company s funds held assets at December 31, 2011 included two of the five cedants with the largest funds held assets, which represented 20% of the Company s total funds held balance. The Company does not legally own or directly control the investments underlying its funds held assets and only has recourse to the cedant for the receivable balances and no claim to the underlying securities that support the balances. Decisions as to purchases and sales of assets underlying the funds held balances are made by the cedant; in some circumstances, investment guidelines regarding the minimum credit quality of the underlying assets may be agreed upon between the cedant and the Company as part of the reinsurance agreement, or the Company may participate in an investment oversight committee regarding the investment of the net funds, but investment decisions are not otherwise influenced by the Company.

Within this portion of the funds held assets, the Company has several annuity treaties which are structured so that the return on the funds held balances is tied to the performance of an underlying group of assets held by the cedant, including fluctuations in the market value of the underlying assets. One such treaty is a retrocessional agreement under which the Company receives more limited data than what is generally received under a direct reinsurance agreement. In these arrangements, the objective of the reinsurance agreement is to provide for the covered longevity risk and to earn a net investment return on an underlying pool of assets greater than is contractually due to the annuity holders. While the Company is also exposed to the creditworthiness of the cedant, the Company s credit risk in some jurisdictions is mitigated by a mandatory right of offset of amounts payable by the Company to a cedant against amounts due to the Company. In certain other jurisdictions the Company is able to mitigate this risk, depending on the nature of the funds held arrangements, to the extent that the Company has the contractual ability to offset any shortfall in the payment of the funds held balances with amounts owed by the Company to cedants for losses payable and other amounts contractually due. The Company also has non-life treaties in which the investment performance of the net funds held asset corresponds to the interest income on the assets held by the cedant; however, the Company is not directly exposed to the underlying credit risk of these investments, as they serve only as collateral for the Company is receivables. That is, the amount owed to the Company is unaffected by changes in the market value of the investments underlying the funds held.

Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses

The Company establishes loss reserves to cover the estimated liability for the payment of all losses and loss expenses incurred with respect to premiums earned on the contracts that the Company writes. Loss reserves do not represent an exact calculation of the liability. Estimates of ultimate liabilities are contingent on many future events and the eventual outcome of these events may be different from the assumptions underlying the reserve estimates. The Company believes that the recorded unpaid losses and loss expenses represent Management s best estimate of the cost to settle the ultimate liabilities based on information available at December 31, 2011.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded gross Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses of \$11,273 million and \$10,667 million, respectively, and net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses of \$10,920 million and \$10,318 million, respectively. See also Business Reserves in Item 1 of

122

Part I of this report for a reconciliation of the gross and net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 and a discussion of the impact of foreign exchange on unpaid losses and loss expenses.

The net Non-life reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses at December 31, 2011 and 2010 include \$1,012 million and \$1,239 million of reserves guaranteed by Colisée Re (see Item 1 of Part I and Note 9 to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of Part II of this report for a discussion of the Reserve Agreement).

See Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits and Review of Net Income Results by Segment above for a discussion of losses and loss expenses, prior years reserve developments and uncertainties related to the 2011 catastrophic events.

Policy Benefits for Life and Annuity Contracts

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded gross policy benefits for life and annuity contracts of \$1,646 million and \$1,750 million, respectively, and net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts of \$1,636 million and \$1,736 million, respectively. See also Business Reserves in Item 1 of Part I of this report for a reconciliation of the net policy benefits for life and annuity contracts for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009.

See Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits and Results by Segment above for a discussion of life policy benefits and prior years reserve developments.

Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid and Unpaid Losses

The Company has exposure to credit risk related to reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses. See Note 10 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk Counterparty Credit Risk in Item 7A of Part II of this report for a discussion of the Company s risk related to reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses and the Company s process to evaluate the financial condition of its reinsurers.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded \$363 million of reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses in its Consolidated Balance Sheets. At December 31, 2011, the distribution of the Company s reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses categorized by the reinsurer s Standard & Poor s rating was as follows:

Rating Category	% of total reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses
AA	16%
A	69
Less than A/Unrated/Other	14
Collateralized	1
T-4-1	10007

At December 31, 2011, 86% of the Company s reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses were either due from reinsurers with A- or better rating from Standard & Poor s or from reinsurers with collateralized balances.

Table of Contents 150

123

Contractual Obligations and Commitments

In the normal course of its business, the Company is a party to a variety of contractual obligations as summarized below. These contractual obligations are considered by the Company when assessing its liquidity requirements and the Company is confident in its ability to meet all of its obligations. Contractual obligations at December 31, 2011 were as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	Total	< 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	> 5 years
Contractual obligations:					
Operating leases	148.4	34.8	52.2	37.6	23.8
Other operating agreements	16.1	12.8	2.8	0.5	
Other invested assets (1)	157.5	61.2	62.2	34.1	
Unpaid losses and loss expenses (2)	11,273.1	3,736.9	3,082.4	1,510.4	2,943.4
Policy benefits for life and annuity contracts (3)	2,698.2	292.7	234.5	202.4	1,968.6
Deposit liabilities (3)	349.2	22.3	45.9	46.2	234.8
Employment agreements (4)	16.8	8.3	6.6	1.6	0.3
Other long-term liabilities:					
Senior Notes-principal (5)	750				750
Senior Notes-interest	NA	44.7	89.4	89.4	44.7 per annum
Capital Efficient Notes principal ⁶	63.4				63.4
Capital Efficient Notes interest	NA	4.1	8.2	8.2	4.1 per annum
Series C cumulative preferred shares principa(7)	290				290
Series C cumulative preferred					
shares dividends	NA	19.6	39.2	39.2	19.6 per annum
Series D cumulative preferred shares principa(7)	230				230
Series D cumulative preferred					
shares dividends	N/A	15.0	29.9	29.9	15.0 per annum
Series E cumulative preferred shares principa(7)	374				374
Series E cumulative preferred					
shares dividends	N/A	27.1	54.2	54.2	27.1 per annum

N/A: not applicable

- (1) The amounts above for other invested assets represent the Company s expected timing of funding capital commitments related to its strategic investments.
- (2) The Company s unpaid losses and loss expenses represent Management s best estimate of the cost to settle the ultimate liabilities based on information available as of December 31, 2011, and are not fixed amounts payable pursuant to contractual commitments. The timing and amounts of actual loss payments related to these reserves might vary significantly from the Company s current estimate of the expected timing and amounts of loss payments based on many factors, including large individual losses as well as general market conditions.
- (3) Policy benefits for life and annuity contracts and deposit liabilities recorded in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011 of \$1,646 million and \$249 million, respectively, are computed on a discounted basis, whereas the expected payments by period in the table above are the estimated payments at a future time and do not reflect a discount of the amount payable.
- (4) In 2010, as part of the Company's integration of Paris Re, the Company announced a voluntary termination plan (voluntary plan) available to certain eligible employees in France. Following their departure from the Company, employees participating in the voluntary plan will continue to receive pre-determined payments related to employment benefits, which were accrued for by the Company under the terms of the voluntary plan during the year ended December 31, 2010. The amounts in the table above reflect the Company's remaining obligations to the eligible employees under the voluntary plan that will be paid through 2018.

124

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

- (5) PartnerRe Finance A LLC and PartnerRe Finance B LLC, the issuers of the Senior Notes, do not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$750 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.
- (6) PartnerRe Finance II Inc., the issuer of the CENts, does not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$71 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.
- (7) The Company's Series C, Series D and Series E preferred shares are cumulative, perpetual and have no mandatory redemption requirement, but may be redeemed at our option under certain circumstances. See Note 12 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for further information.

The Contractual Obligations and Commitments table above does not include an estimate of the period of cash settlement of its tax liabilities with the respective taxing authorities given the Company cannot make a reasonably reliable estimate of the timing of cash settlements.

Due to the limited nature of the information presented above, it should not be considered indicative of the Company s liquidity or capital needs. See Liquidity below.

Shareholders Equity and Capital Resources Management

Shareholders equity was \$6.5 billion at December 31, 2011, a 10% decrease compared to \$7.2 billion at December 31, 2010. The major factors contributing to the decrease in shareholders equity during the year ended December 31, 2011 were:

a net loss of \$520 million;

a net decrease of \$358 million, due to the repurchase of common shares of \$396 million under the Company s share repurchase program, partially offset by the issuance of common shares under the Company s employee equity plans of \$38 million;

dividends declared of \$206 million related to both the Company s common and preferred shares; and

a decrease of \$12 million in the currency translation adjustment, resulting primarily from the translation of the financial statements of the Company s foreign subsidiaries and branches into the U.S. dollar; partially offset by

net proceeds of \$362 million, after underwriting discounts, commissions and other related expenses of \$12 million, related to the issuance of the Series E preferred shares (see Note 12 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report and Contractual Obligations and Commitments above).

See Results of Operations and Review of Net (Loss) Income above for a discussion of the Company s net loss for the year ended December 31, 2011.

As part of its long-term strategy, the Company will continue to actively manage capital resources to support its operations throughout the reinsurance cycle and for the benefit of its shareholders, subject to the ability to maintain strong ratings from the major rating agencies and the unquestioned ability to pay claims as they arise. Generally, the Company seeks to increase its capital when its current capital position is not sufficient to support the volume of attractive business opportunities available. Conversely, the Company will seek to reduce its capital, through the payment of dividends on its common shares or stock repurchases, when available business opportunities are insufficient or unattractive to fully utilize the Company s capital at adequate returns. The Company may also seek to reduce or restructure its capital through the repayment or purchase of debt obligations, or increase or restructure its capital through the issuance of debt, when opportunities arise.

Table of Contents 152

125

Management uses compound annual growth rate in Diluted Book Value per Share as a prime measure of the value the Company is generating for its common shareholders, as Management believes that growth in the Company s Diluted Book Value per Share ultimately translates into growth in the Company s stock price. Diluted Book Value per Share is calculated using common shareholders equity (shareholders equity less the aggregate liquidation value of preferred shares) divided by the number of fully diluted common shares and common share equivalents outstanding (assuming exercise of all stock-based awards and other dilutive securities). The Company s Diluted Book Value per Share decreased by 10% to \$84.82 at December 31, 2011 from \$93.77 at December 31, 2010, primarily due to the comprehensive loss of \$537 million. The comprehensive loss was driven by the net loss of \$520 million, resulting primarily from the significant level of catastrophic events (see Review of Net (Loss) Income) and dividends declared on the Company s common and preferred shares of \$206 million. These decreases were partially offset by the accretive impact of share repurchases during 2011. The 5-year and 10-year compound annual growth rates in Diluted Book Value per Share were in excess of 8% and 11%, respectively, and are further discussed in Key Financial Measures.

The table below sets forth the capital structure of the Company at December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	December 31	, 2011	December 31	, 2010
Capital Structure:				
Senior notes (1)	\$ 750	10%	\$ 750	9%
Capital efficient notes (2)	63	1	63	1
Preferred shares, aggregate liquidation value	894	12	520	7
Common shareholders equity	5,574	77	6,687	83
Total Capital	\$ 7,281	100%	\$ 8,020	100%

- (1) PartnerRe Finance A LLC and PartnerRe Finance B LLC, the issuers of the Senior Notes, do not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$750 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.
- (2) PartnerRe Finance II Inc., the issuer of the CENts, does not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$71 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010. The decrease in total capital during the year ended December 31, 2011 was related to the same factors describing the decrease in shareholders equity above.

Indebtedness

Senior Notes

In March 2010, PartnerRe Finance B LLC (PartnerRe Finance B), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued \$500 million aggregate principal amount of 5.500% Senior Notes (2010 Senior Notes, or collectively with the 2008 Senior Notes defined below referred to as Senior Notes). The 2010 Senior Notes will mature on June 1, 2020 and may be redeemed at the option of the issuer, in whole or in part, at any time. Interest on the 2010 Senior Notes is payable semi-annually and commenced on June 1, 2010 at an annual fixed rate of 5.500%, and cannot be deferred.

The 2010 Senior Notes are ranked as senior unsecured obligations of PartnerRe Finance B. The Company has fully and unconditionally guaranteed all obligations of PartnerRe Finance B under the 2010 Senior Notes. The Company s obligations under this guarantee are senior and unsecured and rank equally with all other senior unsecured indebtedness of the Company.

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

Contemporaneously, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued a 5.500% promissory note, with a principal amount of \$500 million to PartnerRe Finance B. Under the terms of the promissory note, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings promises to pay to PartnerRe Finance B the principal amount on June 1, 2020, unless previously paid. Interest on the promissory note commenced on June 1, 2010 and is payable semi-annually at an annual fixed rate of 5.500%, and cannot be deferred.

For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company incurred interest expense of \$27.5 million and \$21.8 million, respectively, and paid interest of \$27.5 million and \$19.6 million, respectively, in relation to the 2010 Senior Notes issued by PartnerRe Finance B.

In May 2008, PartnerRe Finance A LLC (PartnerRe Finance A), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued \$250 million aggregate principal amount of 6.875% Senior Notes (2008 Senior Notes, or collectively with 2010 Senior Notes referred to as Senior Notes). The 2008 Senior Notes will mature on June 1, 2018 and may be redeemed at the option of the issuer, in whole or in part, at any time. Interest on the 2008 Senior Notes is payable semi-annually and commenced on December 1, 2008 at an annual fixed rate of 6.875%, and cannot be deferred.

The 2008 Senior Notes are ranked as senior unsecured obligations of PartnerRe Finance A. The Company has fully and unconditionally guaranteed all obligations of PartnerRe Finance A under the 2008 Senior Notes. The Company s obligations under this guarantee are senior and unsecured and rank equally with all other senior unsecured indebtedness of the Company.

Contemporaneously, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings issued a 6.875% promissory note, with a principal amount of \$250 million to PartnerRe Finance A. Under the terms of the promissory note, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings promises to pay to PartnerRe Finance A the principal amount on June 1, 2018, unless previously paid. Interest on the promissory note is payable semi-annually and commenced on December 1, 2008 at an annual fixed rate of 6.875%, and cannot be deferred.

For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company incurred interest expense of \$17.2 million, \$17.2 million and \$17.2 million, respectively, and paid interest of \$17.2 million, \$17.2 million and \$17.2 million, respectively, in relation to the 2008 Senior Notes issued by PartnerRe Finance A (see Note 11 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 Part II of this report).

Capital Efficient Notes (CENts)

In November 2006, PartnerRe Finance II Inc. (PartnerRe Finance II), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued \$250 million aggregate principal amount of 6.440% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated CENts. The CENts will mature on December 1, 2066 and may be redeemed at the option of the issuer, in whole or in part, after December 1, 2016 or earlier upon occurrence of specific rating agency or tax events. Interest on the CENts is payable semi-annually and commenced on June 1, 2007 through to December 1, 2016 at an annual fixed rate of 6.440% and will be payable quarterly thereafter until maturity at an annual rate of 3-month LIBOR plus a margin equal to 2.325%.

PartnerRe Finance II may elect to defer one or more interest payments for up to ten years, although interest will continue to accrue and compound at the rate of interest applicable to the CENts. The CENts are ranked as junior subordinated unsecured obligations of PartnerRe Finance II. The Company has fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a subordinated basis all obligations of PartnerRe Finance II under the CENts. The Company s obligations under this guarantee are unsecured and rank junior in priority of payments to the Company s Senior Notes.

Contemporaneously, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings issued a 6.440% Fixed-to-Floating Rate promissory note, with a principal amount of \$257.6 million to PartnerRe Finance II. Under the terms of the promissory note, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings promises to pay to PartnerRe Finance II the principal amount on December 1, 2066,

127

unless previously paid. Interest on the promissory note is payable semi-annually and commenced on June 1, 2007 through to December 1, 2016 at an annual fixed rate of 6.440% and will be payable quarterly thereafter until maturity at an annual rate of 3-month LIBOR plus a margin equal to 2.325%.

On March 13, 2009, PartnerRe Finance II, under the terms of a tender offer, paid holders \$500 per \$1,000 principal amount of CENts tendered, and purchased approximately 75% of the issue, or \$186.6 million, for \$93.3 million. Contemporaneously, under the terms of a cross receipt agreement, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings paid PartnerRe Finance II consideration of \$93.3 million for the extinguishment of \$186.6 million of the principal amount of PartnerRe U.S. Holdings 6.440% Fixed-to-Floating Rate promissory note due December 1, 2066. All other terms and conditions of the remaining CENts and promissory note remain unchanged. A pre-tax gain of \$88.4 million, net of deferred issuance costs and fees, was realized on the foregoing transactions during the year ended December 31, 2009. The aggregate principal amount of the CENts and promissory note outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$63.4 million and \$71.0 million, respectively.

For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company incurred interest expense of \$4.6 million, \$4.6 million and \$7.0 million, respectively, and paid interest of \$4.6 million, \$4.6 million and \$8.0 million, respectively (see Note 11 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 Part II of this report).

Long-term Debt

In October 2005, the Company entered into a loan agreement with Citibank, N.A., under which the Company borrowed \$400 million. The loan had an original maturity of April 27, 2009 and bore interest quarterly at a floating rate of 3-month LIBOR plus 0.50%. In July 2008, under the terms of a loan amendment entered into with Citibank N.A., the maturity of half of the original \$400 million loan was extended to July 12, 2010 with interest quarterly at a floating rate of 3-month LIBOR plus 0.50% through April 27, 2009 and at a rate of 3-month LIBOR plus 0.85% thereafter.

On January 14, 2009, the Company elected to repay the first half of the original \$400 million loan that was due on April 27, 2009.

On July 12, 2010, the Company repaid the \$200 million remaining half of the original \$400 million loan.

For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, the Company incurred interest expense of \$1.2 million and \$3.9 million, respectively, and paid interest of \$1.6 million and \$6.3 million, respectively, in relation to this loan (see Note 11 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 Part II of this report).

The Company did not enter into any short-term borrowing arrangements during the year ended December 31, 2011.

Shareholders Equity

Share Repurchases

During 2011, the Company repurchased, under its authorized share repurchase program, 5.4 million of its common shares at a total cost of \$396.2 million, representing an average cost of \$73.41 per share. At December 31, 2011, the Company had approximately 5.3 million common shares remaining under its current share repurchase authorization and approximately 19.4 million common shares were held in treasury and are available for reissuance (see Note 12 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

During 2010, the Company repurchased, under its authorized share repurchase program, 14.0 million of its common shares at a total cost of \$1,082.6 million, representing an average cost of \$77.10 per share.

During 2009, no shares were repurchased.

Share Issuance

During 2010, the Company s remaining \$200 million forward sale agreement matured. The Company did not deliver any common shares to the forward counterparty (see Note 19 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

During 2009, pursuant to the acquisition of Paris Re, the Company issued 25.7 million common shares, of which 1.3 million common shares were reissued from treasury (see Note 12 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares

The Company has issued and outstanding Series C, Series D and Series E cumulative redeemable preferred shares (Series C, D and E preferred shares) as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars or shares except percentage amounts):

	Se	eries C	Series D	Series E
Date of issuance	M	ay 2003	November 2004	June 2011
Number of preferred shares issued		11.6	9.2	15.0
Annual dividend rate		6.75%	6.5	% 7.25%
Total consideration	\$	280.9	\$ 222.3	\$ 361.7
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	9.1	\$ 7.7	\$ 12.1
Aggregate liquidation value	\$	290.0	\$ 230	\$ 373.8

During 2011, the Company raised proceeds, before underwriting discounts and commissions, of \$374m from the issuance of Series E preferred shares.

The Company may redeem each of the Series C, D and E preferred shares at \$25.00 per share plus accrued and unpaid dividends without interest as follows: (i) each of the Series C and D preferred shares can be redeemed at our option at any time or in part from time to time, and (ii) the Series E preferred shares can be redeemed at our option on or after June 1, 2016 or at any time upon certain changes in tax law. Dividends on each of the Series C, D and E preferred shares are cumulative from the date of issuance and are payable quarterly in arrears.

In the event of liquidation of the Company, each series of outstanding preferred shares ranks on parity with each other series of preference shares and would rank senior to the common shares, and holders thereof would receive a distribution of \$25.00 per share, or the aggregate liquidation value for each of the Series C, D and E preferred shares, respectively, plus accrued and unpaid dividends, if any (see Note 12 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

Liquidity

Liquidity is a measure of the Company s ability to access sufficient cash flows to meet the short-term and long-term cash requirements of its business operations. Management believes that its significant cash flows from operations and high quality liquid investment portfolio will provide sufficient liquidity for the foreseeable future. Cash and cash equivalents decreased from \$2.1 billion at December 31, 2010 to \$1.3 billion at December 31, 2011 primarily due to the investment of a portion of the cash and cash equivalents into the Company s fixed maturity portfolio and loss payments related to the 2011 catastrophic losses.

Cash flows from operations in 2011 decreased to \$574 million from \$1,227 million in 2010. The decrease in cash flows from operations was primarily due to lower underwriting cash flows reflecting loss payments related to the 2011 catastrophic events and a lower level of premiums received, which was driven by the decrease in gross and net premiums written (as discussed in Overview and Results by Segment above). These decreases in underwriting cash flows were partially offset by cash received related to the release of assets from the funds held directly managed account to PartnerRe Europe pursuant to the Endorsement (see Funds Held Directly Managed above).

Net cash used in investing activities was \$1.1 billion during 2011 compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$1.1 billion during 2010. The net cash used in investing activities during 2011 reflects the investment of a portion of the cash and cash equivalents into the Company s fixed maturity portfolio, the investment of net cash provided by operations and the investment of the proceeds related to the issuance of the Series E preferred shares.

Net cash used in financing activities in 2011 was \$242 million compared to \$922 million in 2010. Net cash used in financing activities in 2011 was primarily related to the Company s share repurchases and dividend payments on common and preferred shares, which were partially offset by the net proceeds of \$362 million related to the issuance of the Series E preferred shares.

The Company is a holding company with no operations or significant assets other than the capital stock of the Company subsidiaries and other intercompany balances. The Company has cash outflows in the form of operating expenses, interest payments related to its debt, dividends to both common and preferred shareholders and, from time to time, cash outflows for principal repayments related to its debt, and the repurchase of its common shares under its share repurchase program. For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company incurred other operating expenses of \$77 million, common dividends paid were \$159 million, preferred dividends paid were \$47 million and share repurchases were \$396 million. In February 2012, the Company announced that it was increasing its quarterly dividend to \$0.62 per common share or approximately \$162 million in total for 2012, assuming a constant number of common shares outstanding and a constant dividend rate, and it will pay approximately \$62 million in dividends to preferred shareholders.

The Company relies primarily on cash dividends and payments from its reinsurance subsidiaries to pay the operating expenses, interest expense, shareholder dividends and other obligations of the holding company that may arise from time to time. The Company expects future dividends and other permitted payments from its reinsurance subsidiaries to be the principal source of its funds to pay such expenses and dividends. The payment of dividends by the reinsurance subsidiaries to the Company is limited under Bermuda and Irish laws and certain statutes of various U.S. states in which PartnerRe U.S. is licensed to transact business. As of December 31, 2011, there were no significant restrictions on the payment of dividends by the Company s reinsurance subsidiaries that would limit the Company s ability to pay common and preferred shareholders dividends and its corporate expenses (see Note 14 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

The reinsurance subsidiaries of the Company depend upon cash inflows from the collection of premiums as well as investment income and proceeds from the sales and maturities of investments to meet their obligations. Cash outflows are in the form of claims payments, purchase of investments, operating expenses, income tax payments, intercompany payments as well as dividend payments to the holding company, and additionally, in the case of PartnerRe U.S. Holdings, interest payments on the Senior Notes and the CENts. At December 31, 2011, PartnerRe U.S. Holdings and its subsidiaries have \$750 million in Senior Notes and \$63 million of CENts outstanding and will pay approximately \$49 million in aggregate interest payments in 2012 related to this debt.

Historically, the operating subsidiaries of the Company have generated sufficient cash flows to meet all of their obligations. Because of the inherent volatility of the business written by the Company, the seasonality in the timing of payments by cedants, the irregular timing of loss payments, the impact of a change in interest rates and credit spreads on the investment income as well as seasonality in coupon payment dates for fixed income securities, cash flows from operating activities may vary significantly between periods. The Company believes that annual positive cash flows from operating activities will be sufficient to cover claims payments, absent a series of additional large catastrophic loss activity. In the event that paid losses accelerate beyond the ability to fund such payments from operating cash flows, the Company would use its cash balances available, liquidate a portion of its high quality and liquid investment portfolio or borrow under the Company s revolving line of credit (see Credit Facilities below). As discussed in Investments above, the Company s investments and cash totaled \$16.6 billion at December 31, 2011, the main components of which were investment grade fixed maturities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents totaling \$14.5 billion.

130

Financial strength ratings and senior unsecured debt ratings represent the opinions of rating agencies on the Company s capacity to meet its claims paying obligations. In the event of a significant downgrade in ratings, the Company s ability to write business and to access the capital markets could be impacted. Some of the Company s reinsurance treaties contain special funding and termination clauses that would be triggered in the event the Company or one of its subsidiaries is downgraded by one of the major rating agencies to levels specified in the treaties, or the Company s capital is significantly reduced. If such an event were to occur, the Company would be required, in certain instances, to post collateral in the form of letters of credit and/or trust accounts against existing outstanding losses, if any, related to the treaty. In a limited number of instances, the subject treaties could be cancelled retroactively or commuted by the cedant.

The Company s current financial strength ratings are:

Standard & Poor s	A+
Moody s	A1
A.M. Best	A+
Fitch	AA-

On January 24, 2012, A.M. Best put the Company s A+ rating under review with negative implications.

See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report for the Company s financial strength ratings.

Credit Facilities

In the normal course of its operations, the Company enters into agreements with financial institutions to obtain unsecured and secured credit facilities. At December 31, 2011, the total amount of such credit facilities available to the Company was \$1,440 million, with each of the significant facilities described below. These facilities are used primarily for the issuance of letters of credit, although a portion of these facilities may also be used for liquidity purposes. Under the terms of certain reinsurance agreements, irrevocable letters of credit were issued on an unsecured and secured basis in the amount of \$246 million and \$524 million, respectively, at December 31, 2011, in respect of reported loss and unearned premium reserves.

Included in the total credit facilities available to the Company at December 31, 2011 is a \$750 million three-year syndicated unsecured credit facility. This facility has the following terms: (i) a maturity date of July 16, 2013, (ii) a \$250 million accordion feature, which enables the Company to potentially increase its available credit from \$750 million to \$1 billion, and (iii) a minimum consolidated tangible net worth requirement. The Company s ability to increase its available credit to \$1 billion is subject to the agreement of the credit facility participants. The Company s breach of any of the covenants would result in an event of default, upon which the Company may be required to repay any outstanding borrowings and replace or cash collateralize letters of credit issued under this facility. The Company was in compliance with all of the covenants at December 31, 2011. This facility is predominantly used for the issuance of letters of credit, although the Company and its subsidiaries have access to a revolving line of credit of up to \$375 million as part of this facility. During the year ended December 31, 2011, there were no borrowings under this revolving line of credit.

Additionally, the syndicated unsecured credit facility allows for an adjustment to the level of pricing should the Company experience a change in its senior unsecured debt ratings. The pricing grid provides the Company greater flexibility and simultaneously provides participants under the facility with some price protection.

On November 14, 2011, the Company entered into an agreement to modify an existing credit facility. Under the terms of the agreement, this credit facility was increased from a \$250 million to a \$300 million combined credit facility, with the first \$100 million being unsecured and any utilization above the \$100 million being secured. This credit facility matures on November 14, 2012, and can be extended for one additional year under the terms of the agreement.

In addition to the unsecured credit facilities available, the Company maintains two committed secured letter of credit facilities with amounts available of \$150 million and \$200 million at December 31, 2011. The facilities are used for the issuance of letters of credit, which must be secured fully or partially with cash and/or government bonds and/or investment grade bonds. The agreements include default covenants, which could require the Company to fully secure the outstanding letters of credit to the extent that the facility is not already fully secured, and disallow the issuance of any new letters of credit. The \$200 million credit facility has a maturity date of December 31, 2014. The Company is currently negotiating an extension of the \$150 million credit facility. At December 31, 2011, no conditions of default existed under these facilities (see Note 20 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

In October 2005, the Company entered into a forward sale agreement under which it agreed to sell common shares to an affiliate of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., which affiliate is referred to as the forward counterparty, on settlement dates chosen by the Company prior to October 2008. On July 31, 2008, the Company amended the forward sale agreement, with half the contract maturing and the remaining half extended to April 2010.

On April 28, 2010, under the terms of the amendment to the forward sale agreement with the forward counterparty, the remaining forward sale agreement matured. Commencing on April 28, 2010, there was a 40 day valuation period, whereby the Company could deliver up to 3.4 million common shares over the valuation period, subject to a minimum price per share of \$59.05 and a maximum price per share of \$84.15. As a result of the Company s share price trading between the minimum and the maximum price per share during the valuation period, the Company did not deliver any common shares to the forward counterparty.

This transaction had no other impact on the Company s common shareholders equity, and the Company s diluted net income per share for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 did not include any dilutive effect related to this agreement (see Note 19 to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report).

Currency

The Company s reporting currency is the U.S. dollar. The Company has exposure to foreign currency risk due to both its ownership of its Irish, French and Canadian subsidiaries and branches, whose functional currencies are the euro and the Canadian dollar, and to underwriting reinsurance exposures, collecting premiums and paying claims and other operating expenses in currencies other than the U.S. dollar and holding certain net assets in such currencies. The Company s most significant foreign currency exposure is to the euro.

At December 31, 2011, the value of the U.S. dollar strengthened against most major currencies compared to December 31, 2010, which resulted in a decrease in the U.S. dollar value of the assets and liabilities denominated in non-U.S. dollar currencies. See Results of Operations and Review of Net (Loss) Income above for a discussion of the impact of foreign exchange and net foreign exchange gains and losses during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009.

The foreign exchange gain or loss resulting from the translation of the Company s subsidiaries and branches financial statements (expressed in euro or Canadian dollar functional currency) into U.S. dollars is classified in the currency translation adjustment account, which is a component of accumulated other comprehensive income or loss in shareholders equity. The currency translation adjustment account decreased by \$12 million during the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to a decrease of \$67 million and an increase of \$48 million during the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, due to both the Company s net asset exposure to currencies other than the U.S. dollar and the impact of foreign exchange fluctuations.

132

The following table provides a reconciliation of the currency translation adjustment for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	2011	2010	2009
Currency translation adjustment at beginning of year	\$ 16	\$ 83	\$ 35
Change in currency translation adjustment included in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(12)	(66)	77
Net realized loss on designated net investment hedges included in accumulated other comprehensive (loss)			
income		(1)	(29)

Currency translation adjustment at end of year

\$ 16

\$ 83

From time to time, the Company enters into net investment hedges. At December 31, 2011, there were no outstanding foreign exchange contracts hedging the Company s net investment exposure.

See Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk Foreign Currency Risk in Item 3 of Part I below for a discussion of the Company s risk related to changes in foreign currency movements.

Effects of Inflation

The effects of inflation are considered implicitly in pricing and estimating reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses. The actual effects of inflation on the results of operations of the Company cannot be accurately known until claims are ultimately settled.

New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2(u) to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of Part II of this report.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK Overview

Management believes that the Company is principally exposed to five types of market related risk: interest rate risk, credit spread risk, foreign currency risk, counterparty credit risk and equity price risk. How these risks relate to the Company, and the process used to manage them, is discussed below.

As discussed above in this report, the Company s investment philosophy distinguishes between assets that are generally matched against the estimated net reinsurance liabilities (liability funds) and those assets that represent shareholder capital (capital funds). Liability funds are invested in a way that generally matches them to the corresponding liabilities in both duration and currency composition to provide a natural hedge against changes in interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

The Company s investment philosophy is to reduce foreign currency risk on capital funds by investing primarily in U.S. dollar denominated investments. In considering the market risk of capital funds, it is important to recognize the benefits of portfolio diversification. Although these asset classes in isolation may introduce more risk into the portfolio, market forces have a tendency to influence each class in different ways and at different times. Consequently, the aggregate risk introduced by a portfolio of these assets should be less than might be estimated by summing the individual risks.

Although the focus of this discussion is to identify risk exposures that impact the market value of assets alone, it is important to recognize that the risks discussed herein are significantly mitigated to the extent that the Company s investment strategy allows market forces to influence the economic valuation of assets and liabilities in a way that is generally offsetting.

As described above in this report, the Company s investment strategy allows the use of derivative investments, subject to strict limitations. The Company also imposes a high standard for the credit quality of counterparties in all derivative transactions and aims to diversify its counterparty credit risk exposure. See Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of Part II of this report for additional information related to derivatives.

The following comments address those areas where the Company believes it has exposure to material market risk in its operations.

Interest Rate Risk

The Company s fixed income portfolio and the fixed income securities in the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account are exposed to interest rate risk. Fluctuations in interest rates have a direct impact on the market valuation of these securities. The Company manages interest rate risk on liability funds by constructing bond portfolios in which the economic impact of a general interest rate shift is comparable to the impact on the related liabilities. This process involves matching the duration of the investment portfolio to the estimated duration of the liabilities. For unpaid loss reserves and policy benefits related to non-life and traditional life business, the estimated duration of the Company s liabilities is based on projected claims payout patterns. For policy benefits related to annuity business, the Company estimates duration based on its commitment to annuitants. The Company believes that this matching process mitigates the overall interest rate risk on an economic basis. The Company manages the exposure to interest rate volatility on capital funds by choosing a duration profile that it believes will optimize the risk-reward relationship.

While this matching of duration insulates the Company from the economic impact of interest rate changes, changes in interest rates do impact the Company s shareholders equity. The Company s liabilities are carried at their nominal value, and are not adjusted for changes in interest rates, with the exception of certain policy benefits for life and annuity contracts and deposit liabilities that are interest rate sensitive. However, substantially all of the Company s invested assets (including the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account) are carried at fair value, which reflects such changes. As a result, an increase in interest rates will result in a decrease in the fair value of the Company s investments (including the investments underlying the funds held directly managed account) and a corresponding decrease, net of applicable taxes, in the Company s shareholders equity. A decrease in interest rates would have the opposite effect.

At December 31, 2011, the Company held approximately \$3,991 million of its total invested assets in mortgage/asset-backed securities. These assets are exposed to prepayment risk, the adverse impact of which is more evident in a declining interest rate environment.

134

At December 31, 2011, the Company estimates that the hypothetical case of an immediate 100 basis points or 200 basis points parallel shift in global bond curves would result in a change in the fair value of investments exposed to interest rate risk, the fair value of funds held directly managed account exposed to interest rate risk, total invested assets, and shareholders equity as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	-200 Basis Points	% Change	-100 Basis Points	% Change	December 31, 2011	+100 Basis Points	% Change	+200 Basis Points	% Change
Fair value of investments									
exposed to interest rate risk (1)(2)	\$ 16,236	6%	\$ 15,789	3%	\$ 15,342	\$ 14,895	(3)%	\$ 14,448	(6)%
Fair value of funds held									
directly managed account									
exposed to interest rate risk (2)	1,284	5	1,251	3	1,218	1,185	(3)	1,152	(5)
Total invested assets (3)	19,027	5	18,547	3	18,067	17,587	(3)	17,107	(5)
Shareholders equity	7,428	15	6,948	7	6,468	5,988	(7)	5,508	(15)

- (1) Includes certain other invested assets, certain cash and cash equivalents and funds holding fixed income securities.
- (2) Excludes accrued interest.
- (3) Includes total investments, cash and cash equivalents, the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account and accrued interest.

The changes do not take into account any potential mitigating impact from the equity market, taxes or the corresponding change in the economic value of the Company s reinsurance liabilities, which, as noted above, would substantially offset the economic impact on invested assets, although the offset would not be reflected in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

As discussed above, the Company strives to match the foreign currency exposure in its fixed income portfolio to its multicurrency liabilities. The Company believes that this matching process creates a diversification benefit. Consequently, the exact market value effect of a change in interest rates will depend on which countries experience interest rate changes and the foreign currency mix of the Company s fixed income portfolio at the time of the interest rate changes. See Foreign Currency Risk below.

The impact of an immediate change in interest rates on the fair value of investments and funds held directly managed exposed to interest rate risk, the Company s total invested assets and shareholders equity, in both absolute terms and as a percentage of total invested assets and shareholders equity, has not changed significantly at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010.

Interest rate movements also affect the economic value of the Company s outstanding debt obligations and preferred securities in the same way that they affect the Company s fixed income investments, and this can result in a liability whose economic value is different from the carrying value reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company believes that the economic fair value of its outstanding Senior Notes, CENts and preferred shares at December 31, 2011 was as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	rrying ⁷ alue	Fair Value
Debt related to Senior Notes (1)	\$ 750	\$ 781
Debt related to Capital Efficient Notes (2)	63	56
Series C cumulative preferred shares	290	294
Series D cumulative preferred shares	230	230
Series E cumulative preferred shares	374	396

⁽¹⁾ PartnerRe Finance A LLC and PartnerRe Finance B LLC, the issuers of the Senior Notes, do not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$750 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

135

(2) PartnerRe Finance II Inc., the issuer of the CENts, does not meet consolidation requirements under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the Company shows the related intercompany debt of \$71 million in its Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.
The fair value of the debt related to Senior Notes issued by PartnerRe Finance B LLC, PartnerRe Finance A LLC and the CENts was calculated based on internal models using observable inputs based on the aggregate principal amount outstanding of \$500 million from PartnerRe Finance B LLC, \$250 million from PartnerRe Finance A and \$63 million from PartnerRe Finance II, respectively. For the Company s Series C, Series D and Series E cumulative preferred shares, fair value is based on quoted market prices, while carrying value is based on the aggregate liquidation value of the shares.

The fair value of the Company s outstanding debt obligations and preferred shares has not changed significantly at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010, other than related to the issuance of the Series E cumulative preferred shares during 2011.

Credit Spread Risk

The Company s fixed income portfolio and the fixed income securities in the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account are exposed to credit spread risk. Fluctuations in market credit spreads have a direct impact on the market valuation of these securities. The Company manages credit spread risk by the selection of securities within its fixed income portfolio. Changes in credit spreads directly affect the market value of certain fixed income securities, but do not necessarily result in a change in the future expected cash flows associated with holding individual securities. Other factors, including liquidity, supply and demand, and changing risk preferences of investors, may affect market credit spreads without any change in the underlying credit quality of the security.

As with interest rates, changes in credit spreads impact the shareholders equity of the Company as invested assets are carried at fair value, which includes changes in credit spreads. As a result, an increase in credit spreads will result in a decrease in the fair value of the Company s investments (including the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account) and a corresponding decrease, net of applicable taxes, in the Company s shareholders equity. A decrease in credit spreads would have the opposite effect.

At December 31, 2011, the Company estimates that the hypothetical case of an immediate 100 basis points or 200 basis points parallel shift in global credit spreads would result in a change in the fair value of investments and the fair value of funds held directly managed account exposed to credit spread risk, total invested assets and shareholders equity as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	-200 Basis Points	% Change	-100 Basis Points	% Change	December 31, 2011	+100 Basis Points	% Change	+200 Basis Points	% Change
Fair value of investments									
exposed to credit spread risk (1)	\$ 16,054	5%	\$ 15,698	2%	\$ 15,342	\$ 14,986	(2)%	\$ 14,630	(5)%
Fair value of funds held									
directly managed account									
exposed to credit spread risk (2)	1,266	4	1,242	2	1,218	1,194	(2)	1,170	(4)
Total invested assets (3)	18,827	4	18,447	2	18,067	17,687	(2)	17,307	(4)
Shareholders equity	7,228	12	6,848	6	6,468	6,088	(6)	5,708	(12)

- (1) Includes certain other invested assets, certain cash and cash equivalents and funds holding fixed income securities.
- (2) Excludes accrued interest.

136

(3) Includes total investments, cash and cash equivalents, the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account and accrued interest.

The impacts of changes in credit spreads for all parallel shifts in basis points are lower than the impacts of changes in interest rates, as the change in credit spreads does not impact government fixed income securities. However, the change in credit spreads does assume that mortgage-backed securities issued by government sponsored entities are affected, even though these typically exhibit significantly lower spread volatility than corporate fixed income securities. These changes also exclude any potential mitigating impact from the equity market, taxes, and the change in the economic value of the Company s reinsurance liabilities, which may offset the economic impact on invested assets.

The impact of an immediate change in credit spreads on the fair value of investments and funds held directly managed exposed to credit spread risk, the Company s total invested assets and shareholders equity, in both absolute terms and as a percentage of total invested assets and shareholders equity, has not changed significantly at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010.

Foreign Currency Risk

Through its multinational reinsurance operations, the Company conducts business in a variety of non-U.S. currencies, with the principal exposures being the euro, Canadian dollar, British pound, New Zealand dollar, Japanese Yen and Australian dollar. As the Company s reporting currency is the U.S. dollar, foreign exchange rate fluctuations may materially impact the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company is generally able to match its liability funds against its net reinsurance liabilities both by currency and duration to protect the Company against foreign exchange and interest rate risks. However, a natural offset does not exist for all currencies. For the non-U.S. dollar currencies for which the Company deems the net asset or liability exposures to be material, the Company employs a hedging strategy utilizing foreign exchange forward contracts and other derivative financial instruments, as appropriate, to reduce exposure and more appropriately match the liability funds by currency. The Company does not hedge currencies for which its asset or liability exposures are not material or where it is unable or impractical to do so. In such cases, the Company is exposed to foreign currency risk. However, the Company does not believe that the foreign currency risks corresponding to these unhedged positions are material, except for those related to the Company s capital funds.

For the Company s capital funds, including its net investment in foreign subsidiaries and branches, the Company does not typically employ hedging strategies. However, from time to time the Company does enter into net investment hedges to offset foreign exchange volatility (see Currency in Item 7 of Part II of this report).

The table below summarizes the Company s gross and net exposure in its Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011 to foreign currency as well as the associated foreign currency derivatives the Company has entered into to manage this exposure (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	euro	CAD	GBP	NZD	JPY	AUD	Other	Total(1)
Total assets	\$ 4,739	\$ 1,317	\$ 1,012	\$ 14	\$ 91	\$ 80	\$ 710	\$ 7,963
Total liabilities	(4,211)	(752)	(767)	(467)	(455)	(317)	(1,265)	(8,234)
Total gross foreign currency exposure	528	565	245	(453)	(364)	(237)	(555)	(271)
Total derivative amount	(408)	16	(242)	421	255	145	509	696
Net foreign currency exposure	120	581	3	(32)	(109)	(92)	(46)	425

(1) As the U.S. dollar is the Company s reporting currency, there is no currency risk attached to the U.S. dollar and it is excluded from this table. The U.S. dollar accounted for the difference between the Company s total foreign currency exposure in this table and the total assets and total liabilities in the Company s Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2011.

137

The above numbers include the Company s investment in PartnerRe Holdings Europe Limited, whose functional currency is the euro, and certain of its subsidiaries and branches, whose functional currencies are the euro or Canadian dollar.

Assuming all other variables remain constant and disregarding any tax effects, a change in the U.S. dollar of 10% or 20% relative to the other currencies held by the Company would result in a change in the Company s net assets of \$43 million and \$85 million, respectively, inclusive of the effect of foreign exchange forward contracts and other derivative financial instruments.

At December 31, 2010, the Company s net foreign currency exposure in its Consolidated Balance Sheet, after the effect of derivatives, was \$975 million. The \$550 million decrease in the Company s net foreign currency exposure compared to December 31, 2010 is primarily related to a decrease in the Company s euro exposure related to a decline in level of net assets held by its European subsidiaries following capital distributions to the Company.

Counterparty Credit Risk

The Company has exposure to credit risk primarily as a holder of fixed income securities. The Company controls this exposure by emphasizing investment grade credit quality in the fixed income securities it purchases. At December 31, 2011, approximately 25% of the Company s fixed income portfolio (including the funds held directly managed account and funds holding fixed income securities) was rated AAA (or equivalent rating). The decline in the percentage of the Company s fixed income portfolio rated AAA from 50% at December 31, 2010 largely reflects Standard & Poor s decision in August 2011 related to the downgrade of U.S. government securities, as discussed in Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Investments above.

On January 13, 2012, Standard & Poor s announced credit downgrades of nine European sovereign governments (the Eurozone downgrade). If the Eurozone downgrade had occurred at December 31, 2011, the impact on the credit quality of the Company s fixed income and short-term investments (including the funds held directly managed account and funds holding fixed income securities) would have been to decrease the AAA credit quality from 25% to 19%, with a corresponding increase in the AA credit quality from 37% to 43%. The average credit quality of the Company s fixed income and short-term investments (including the funds held directly managed account and funds holding fixed income securities) would have remained at AA at December 31, 2011. See Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Management Investments.

At December 31, 2011, approximately 82% the Company s fixed income and short-term investments (including funds holding fixed income securities and excluding the funds held directly managed account) was rated A- or better and 7% was rated below investment grade or not rated. The Company believes this high quality concentration reduces its exposure to credit risk on fixed income investments to an acceptable level. At December 31, 2011, the Company is not exposed to any significant credit concentration risk on its investments, excluding securities issued by the U.S. and German governments which are rated AA+ and AAA, respectively. In addition, the single largest corporate issuer and the top 10 corporate issuers accounted for less than 3% and 17% of the Company s total corporate fixed income securities (excluding the funds held directly managed account), respectively. Within the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account, the single largest corporate issuer and the top 10 corporate issuers accounted for less than 4% and 24% of total corporate fixed income securities underlying the funds held directly managed account at December 31, 2011, respectively.

The Company keeps cash and cash equivalents in several banks and ensures that there are no significant concentrations at any point in time, in any one bank.

To a lesser extent, the Company also has credit risk exposure as a party to foreign exchange forward contracts and other derivative contracts. To mitigate this risk, the Company monitors its exposure by

138

counterparty, aims to diversify its counterparty credit risk and ensures that counterparties to these contracts are high credit quality international banks or counterparties. These contracts are generally of short duration (approximately 90 days) and settle on a net basis, which means that the Company is exposed to the movement of one currency against the other, as opposed to the notional amount of the contracts. At December 31, 2011, the Company s absolute notional value of foreign exchange forward contracts and foreign currency option contracts was \$2,665 million, while the net fair value of those contracts was an unrealized gain of \$3 million.

The Company is also exposed to credit risk in its underwriting operations, most notably in the credit/surety line and for alternative risk products. Loss experience in these lines of business is cyclical and is affected by the general economic environment. The Company provides its clients in these lines of business with protection against credit deterioration, defaults or other types of financial non-performance of or by the underlying credits that are the subject of the protection provided and, accordingly, the Company is exposed to the credit risk of those credits. As with all of the Company is business, these risks are subject to rigorous underwriting and pricing standards. In addition, the Company strives to mitigate the risks associated with these credit-sensitive lines of business through the use of risk management techniques such as risk diversification, careful monitoring of risk aggregations and accumulations and, at times, through the use of retrocessional reinsurance protection and the purchase of credit default swaps and total return and interest rate swaps. At December 31, 2011, the Company purchased protection related to its investment portfolio and credit/surety line primarily in the form of credit default swaps with a notional value of \$95 million and an unrealized loss of \$1 million.

The Company is subject to the credit risk of its cedants in the event of their insolvency or their failure to honor the value of the funds held balances due to the Company for any other reason. However, the Company scredit risk in some jurisdictions is mitigated by a mandatory right of offset of amounts payable by the Company to a cedant against amounts due to the Company. In certain other jurisdictions the Company is able to mitigate this risk, depending on the nature of the funds held arrangements, to the extent that the Company has the contractual ability to offset any shortfall in the payment of the funds held balances with amounts owed by the Company to cedants for losses payable and other amounts contractually due. Funds held balances for which the Company receives an investment return based upon either the results of a pool of assets held by the cedant or the investment return earned by the cedant on its investment portfolio are exposed to an additional layer of credit risk. The Company is also exposed to some extent to the underlying financial market risk of the pool of assets, inasmuch as the underlying policies may have guaranteed minimum returns.

The funds held directly managed account due to the Company is related to one cedant, Colisée Re (see Investments underlying the Funds Held Directly Managed Account in Item 1 of Part I of this report). The Company is subject to the credit risk of this cedant in the event of insolvency or Colisée Re s failure to honor the value of the funds held balances for any other reason. However, the Company s credit risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that the Company generally has the right to offset any shortfall in the payment of the funds held balances with amounts owed by the Company to the cedant for losses payable and other amounts contractually due. See also Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report for additional discussion of the Company s exposure if Colisée Re, or its affiliates, breach or do not satisfy their obligations. In addition to exposure to Colisée Re, the Company is also subject to the credit risk of AXA or its affiliates in the event of their insolvency or their failure to honor their obligations under the acquisition agreements.

The Company has exposure to credit risk as it relates to its business written through brokers if any of the Company s brokers is unable to fulfill their contractual obligations with respect to payments to the Company. In addition, in some jurisdictions, if the broker fails to make payments to the insured under the Company s policy, the Company might remain liable to the insured for the deficiency. The Company s exposure to such credit risk is somewhat mitigated in certain jurisdictions by contractual terms. See Risk Factors in Item 1A of Part I of this report for information related to two brokers that accounted for approximately 47% of the Company s gross premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The Company has exposure to credit risk as it relates to its reinsurance balances receivable and reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses. Reinsurance balances receivable from the Company s clients at

139

December 31, 2011 were \$2,060 million, including balances both currently due and accrued. The Company believes that credit risk related to these balances is mitigated by several factors, including but not limited to, credit checks performed as part of the underwriting process and monitoring of aged receivable balances. In addition, as the majority of its reinsurance agreements permit the Company the right to offset reinsurance balances receivable from clients against losses payable to them, the Company believes that the credit risk in this area is substantially reduced. Provisions are made for amounts considered potentially uncollectible and the allowance for uncollectible reinsurance balances receivable was \$8 million at December 31, 2011.

The Company purchases retrocessional reinsurance and requires its reinsurers to have adequate financial strength. The Company evaluates the financial condition of its reinsurers and monitors its concentration of credit risk on an ongoing basis. Provisions are made for amounts considered potentially uncollectible. At December 31, 2011, the balance of reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses was \$363 million, which is net of the allowance provided for uncollectible reinsurance recoverables of \$12 million. At December 31, 2011, 86% of the Company s reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses were either due from reinsurers with an A- or better rating from Standard & Poor s or from reinsurers with collateralized balances. See Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid and Unpaid Losses above for details of the Company s reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses categorized by the reinsurer s Standard & Poor s rating.

Other than the items discussed above, the concentrations of the Company s counterparty credit risk exposures have not changed materially at December 31, 2011, compared to December 31, 2010.

Equity Price Risk

The Company invests a portion of its capital funds in marketable equity securities (fair market value of \$701 million, excluding funds holding fixed income securities of \$244 million) at December 31, 2011. These equity investments are exposed to equity price risk, defined as the potential for loss in market value due to a decline in equity prices. The Company believes that the effects of diversification and the relatively small size of its investments in equities relative to total invested assets mitigate its exposure to equity price risk. The Company estimates that its equity investment portfolio has a beta versus the S&P 500 Index of approximately 1.01 on average. Portfolio beta measures the response of a portfolio s performance relative to a market return, where a beta of 1 would be an equivalent return to the index. Given the estimated beta for the Company s equity portfolio, a 10% and 20% movement in the S&P 500 Index would result in a change in the fair value of the Company s equity portfolio, total invested assets and shareholders equity at December 31, 2011 as follows (in millions of U.S. dollars):

	20% Decrease	% Change	10% Decrease	% Change	December 31, 2011	10% Increase	% Change	20% Increase	% Change
Equities (1)	\$ 559	(20)%	\$ 630	(10)%	\$ 701	\$ 772	10%	\$ 843	20%
Total invested assets (2)	17,925	(1)	17,996		18,067	18,138		18,209	1
Shareholders equity	6.326	(2)	6,397	(1)	6,468	6,539	1	6.610	2

- (1) Excludes funds holding fixed income securities of \$244 million.
- (2) Includes total investments, cash and cash equivalents, the investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account and accrued interest.

This change does not take into account any potential mitigating impact from the fixed income securities or taxes.

The absolute impact of a 10% change in the S&P 500 Index on the Company s equity portfolio, total invested assets and shareholders equity decreased to \$71 million at December 31, 2011 compared to \$114 million at December 31, 2010, as a result of the decrease in the fair value of the equity portfolio, excluding funds

140

holding fixed income securities, to \$701 million at December 31, 2011 from \$1,031 million at December 31, 2010. There was no material change in the percentage impact of an immediate change of 10% in the S&P 500 Index on the Company s total invested assets and shareholders equity at December 31, 2011 compared to December 31, 2010.

141

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA PartnerRe Ltd.

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Expressed in thousands of U.S. dollars, except parenthetical share and per share data)

	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Assets	2011	2010
Investments:		
Fixed maturities, trading securities, at fair value (amortized cost: 2011, \$13,394,404; 2010, \$12,394,797)	\$ 13,941,829	\$ 12,824,389
Short-term investments, trading securities, at fair value (amortized cost: 2011, \$42,563; 2010, \$49,132)	42,571	49,397
Equities, trading securities, at fair value (cost: 2011, \$917,613; 2010, \$942,745)	944,691	1,071,676
Other invested assets	358,154	352,405
	,	,
Total investments	15,287,245	14,297,867
Funds held directly managed (cost: 2011, \$1,241,222; 2010, \$1,751,276)	1,268,010	1,772,118
Cash and cash equivalents, at fair value, which approximates amortized cost	1,342,257	2,111,084
Accrued investment income	189,074	201,928
Reinsurance balances receivable	2,059,976	2,076,884
Reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses	397,788	382,878
Funds held by reinsured companies	796,290	937,032
Deferred acquisition costs	547,202	595,557
Deposit assets	241,513	256,702
Net tax assets	66,574	14,960
Goodwill	455,533	455,533
Intangible assets	133,867	178,715
Other assets	70,044	83,113
	ŕ	
Total assets	\$ 22,855,373	\$ 23,364,371
Liabilities		
Unpaid losses and loss expenses	\$ 11,273,091	\$ 10,666,604
Policy benefits for life and annuity contracts	1,645,662	1,750,410
Unearned premiums	1,448,841	1,599,139
Other reinsurance balances payable	443,873	491,194
Deposit liabilities	249,382	268,239
Net tax liabilities	297,153	316,325
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other	208,840	244,552
Debt related to senior notes	750,000	750,000
Debt related to capital efficient notes	70,989	70,989
Total liabilities	16,387,831	16,157,452
1 Otal Habilities	10,307,031	10,137,432
Shareholders Equity		
Common shares (par value \$1.00; issued: 2011, 84,766,693 shares; 2010, 84,033,089 shares)	84,767	84,033
Preferred shares (par value \$1.00; issued and outstanding: 2011, 35,750,000 shares; 2010, 20,800,000	04,707	01,033
shares; aggregate liquidation value: 2011, \$893,750; 2010, \$520,000)	35,750	20,800
Additional paid-in capital	3,803,796	3,419,864
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income:	2,002,770	3,117,004
Currency translation adjustment	4,267	16,101
Other accumulated comprehensive loss (net of tax of: 2011, \$6,590; 2010, \$4,872)	(16,911)	(12,045)
	()	(1-,010)

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Retained earnings	4,035,103	4,761,178
Common shares held in treasury, at cost (2011, 19,444,365 shares; 2010, 14,046,895 shares)	(1,479,230)	(1,083,012)
Total shareholders equity	6,467,542	7,206,919
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$ 22,855,373	\$ 23,364,371

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

PartnerRe Ltd.

Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive (Loss) Income

(Expressed in thousands of U.S. dollars, except share and per share data)

		the year ended ecember 31, 2011	For the year ended December 31, 2010			he year ended ecember 31, 2009
Revenues						
Gross premiums written	\$	4,633,054	\$	4,885,266	\$	4,000,888
Net premiums written	\$	4,486,329	\$	4,705,116	\$	3,948,704
Decrease in unearned premiums		161,425		71,355		171,121
Net premiums earned		4,647,754		4,776,471		4,119,825
Net investment income		629,148		672,782		596,071
Net realized and unrealized investment gains		66,692		401,482		591,707
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes		,		- , -		88,427
Other income		7,915		10,470		22,312
Total revenues		5,351,509		5,861,205		5,418,342
Expenses						
Losses and loss expenses and life policy benefits		4,372,570		3,283,618		2,295,296
Acquisition costs		938,361		972,537		885,214
Other operating expenses		434,846		539,751		430,808
Interest expense		48,949		44,413		28,301
Amortization of intangible assets		36,405		31,461		(6,133)
Net foreign exchange (gains) losses		(34,675)		20,686		1,464
Total expenses		5,796,456		4,892,466		3,634,950
(Loss) income before taxes and interest in (losses) earnings of						
equity investments		(444,947)		968,739		1,783,392
Income tax expense		68,972		128,784		262,090
Interest in (losses) earnings of equity investments		(6,372)		12,597		15,552
Net (loss) income		(520,291)		852,552		1,536,854
Preferred dividends		47,020		34,525		34,525
Net (loss) income available to common shareholders	\$	(567,311)	\$	818,027	\$	1,502,329
Comprehensive (loss) income						
Net (loss) income	\$	(520,291)	\$	852,552	\$	1,536,854
Change in currency translation adjustment	Ψ	(11,834)	Ψ	(66,742)	Ψ	47,955
Change in other accumulated comprehensive (loss) income, net		(11,004)		(00,712)		17,755
of tax		(4,866)		(14,129)		14,164
Comprehensive (loss) income	\$	(536,991)	\$	771,681	\$	1,598,973
Per share data						
Net (loss) income per common share:						
Basic net (loss) income Basic net (loss) income	\$	(8.40)	\$	10.65	\$	23.93
Carry and a	т	(/	7		-	

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Diluted net (loss) income	\$ (8.40)	\$ 10.46	\$ 23.51
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	67,558,732	76,839,519	62,786,234
Weighted average number of common shares and common share			
equivalents outstanding	67,558,732	78,234,312	63,890,638
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 2.35	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.88

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

PartnerRe Ltd.

Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity

(Expressed in thousands of U.S. dollars)

	For the year ended December 31, 2011		For the year ended December 31, 2010			he year ended cember 31, 2009
Common shares						
Balance at beginning of year	\$	84,033	\$	82,586	\$	57,749
Issuance of common shares, other		734		1,447		476
Issuance of common shares related to the acquisition of Paris Re						24,361
Balance at end of year		84,767		84,033		82,586
Preferred shares						
Balance at beginning of year		20,800		20,800		20,800
Issuance of preferred shares		14,950				
Balance at end of year		35,750		20,800		20,800
Additional paid-in capital						
Balance at beginning of year		3,419,864		3,357,004		1,465,688
Issuance of preferred shares		346,772		, ,		, ,
Issuance of common shares, other		37,160		62,860		33,261
Issuance of common shares related to the acquisition of Paris Re		·				1,858,055
Balance at end of year		3,803,796		3,419,864		3,357,004
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income						
Balance at beginning of year		4,056		84,927		22,808
Change in currency translation adjustment		(11,834)		(66,742)		47,955
Change in other accumulated comprehensive (loss) income		(4,866)		(14,129)		14,164
Balance at end of year		(12,644)		4,056		84,927
Retained earnings						
Balance at beginning of year		4,761,178		4,100,782		2,729,662
Net (loss) income		(520,291)		852,552		1,536,854
Dividends on common shares		(158,764)		(157,631)		(117,326)
Dividends on preferred shares		(47,020)		(34,525)		(34,525)
Reissuance of treasury shares related to the acquisition of Paris Re						(13,883)
Balance at end of year		4,035,103		4,761,178		4,100,782
Common shares held in treasury						
Balance at beginning of year		(1,083,012)		(372)		(97,599)
Repurchase of common shares		(396,218)		(1,082,640)		
Reissuance of treasury shares related to the acquisition of Paris Re						97,227
Balance at end of year		(1,479,230)		(1,083,012)		(372)
Total shareholders equity	\$	6,467,542	\$	7,206,919	\$	7,645,727
1 our shareholders equity	Ψ	0,707,572	Ψ	7,200,919	Ψ	1,043,121

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

144

PartnerRe Ltd.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(Expressed in thousands of U.S. dollars)

	For the year ended December 31, 2011	For the year ended December 31, 2010	For the year ended December 31, 2009
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net (loss) income	\$ (520,291)	\$ 852,552	\$ 1,536,854
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash provided			
by operating activities:	04.220	E0 (20	17.010
Amortization of net premium on investments	91,339	78,620	17,312
Amortization of intangible assets	36,405	31,461	(6,133)
Net realized and unrealized investment gains	(66,692)	(401,482)	(591,707)
Net realized gain on purchase of capital efficient notes			(88,427)
Changes in:	(21.026)	217.066	170.006
Reinsurance balances, net	(21,036)	217,066	170,986
Reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses, net of ceded	(A.F.	(20, 022)	(20,026)
premiums payable	625	(30,033)	(20,836)
Funds held by reinsured companies and funds held directly	(0/.0//	206.174	54.416
managed	606,266	296,174	54,416
Deferred acquisition costs	52,069	35,317	67,899
Net tax assets and liabilities	(58,970)	(56,599)	208,052
Unpaid losses and loss expenses including life policy benefits	606,698	227,240	(112,108)
Unearned premiums	(161,425)	(71,355)	(171,121)
Other net changes in operating assets and liabilities	8,647	47,959	33,414
Net cash provided by operating activities	573,635	1,226,920	1,098,601
Cash flows from investing activities			
Sales of fixed maturities	8,328,352	8,621,227	7,271,909
Redemptions of fixed maturities	1,211,016	1,272,885	1,065,353
Purchases of fixed maturities	(10,549,343)	(8,572,471)	(9,039,313)
Sales and redemptions of short-term investments	336,456	270,087	201,479
Purchases of short-term investments	(331,432)	(141,157)	(182,211)
Sales of equities	730,929	607,459	688,360
Purchases of equities	(619,533)	(769,557)	(826,246)
Cash acquired related to the acquisition of Paris Re (1)			492,466
Other, net	(186,823)	(185,965)	(118,473)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(1,080,378)	1,102,508	(446,676)
Cash flows from financing activities	/2.2 = 2.0 N		
Cash dividends paid to shareholders	(205,784)	(192,156)	(151,851)
Net proceeds from issuance of preferred shares	361,722		
Repurchase of common shares	(413,737)	(1,065,121)	
Issuance of common shares	16,041	37,682	16,034
Proceeds from issuance of senior notes		500,000	
Contract fees on forward sale agreement		(2,638)	(5,070)
Repayment of debt		(200,000)	(200,000)
Share capital repayment paid to former shareholders of Paris Re			(330,103)
Purchase of capital efficient notes			(94,241)

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Net cash used in financing activities Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash (Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents beginning of year		(241,758) (20,326) (768,827) 2,111,084		(922,233) (34,420) 1,372,775 738,309		(765,231) 13,335 (99,971) 838,280
Cash and cash equivalents end of year	\$	1,342,257	\$	2,111,084	\$	738,309
Supplemental cash flow information: Taxes paid Interest paid	\$ \$	197,610 49,259	\$ \$	199,838 42,995	\$ \$	118,174 32,476

⁽¹⁾ The acquisition of Paris Re s assets and liabilities involved non-cash share for share transactions, which have been excluded from the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

PartnerRe Ltd.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Organization

PartnerRe Ltd. (the Company) provides reinsurance on a worldwide basis through its principal wholly-owned subsidiaries, including Partner Reinsurance Company Ltd. (PartnerRe Bermuda), Partner Reinsurance Europe plc (PartnerRe Europe) and Partner Reinsurance Company of the U.S (PartnerRe U.S.). Risks reinsured include, but are not limited to, property, casualty, motor, agriculture, aviation/space, catastrophe, credit/surety, engineering, energy, marine, specialty property, specialty casualty, multiline and other lines, mortality, longevity and health and alternative risk products. The Company s alternative risk products include weather and credit protection to financial, industrial and service companies on a worldwide basis.

The Company was incorporated in August 1993 under the laws of Bermuda. The Company commenced operations in November 1993 upon completion of the sale of common shares and warrants pursuant to subscription agreements and an initial public offering.

In July 1997, the Company completed the acquisition of SAFR (subsequently renamed PartnerRe SA), and in December 1998, the Company completed the acquisition of the reinsurance operations of Winterthur Group (Winterthur Re).

Effective October 2, 2009, the Company obtained a controlling interest in PARIS RE Holdings Limited (Paris Re), a French-listed, Swiss-based holding company and its operating subsidiaries. Subsequent to October 2, 2009, the Company acquired additional common shares of Paris Re and effected a statutory merger (Merger), resulting in the Company obtaining 100% ownership of Paris Re on December 7, 2009. The Consolidated Statements of Operations and Cash Flows include the results of Paris Re for the period from October 2, 2009, the date of acquisition of the controlling interest (Acquisition Date) (see Note 7).

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The Company s Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP). The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. To facilitate comparison of information across periods, certain reclassifications have been made to prior year amounts to conform to the current year s presentation.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. While Management believes that the amounts included in the Consolidated Financial Statements reflect its best estimates and assumptions, actual results could differ from those estimates. The Company s principal estimates include:

Unpaid losses and loss expenses;	
Policy benefits for life and annuity contracts;	
Gross and net premiums written and net premiums earned;	
Recoverability of deferred acquisition costs;	
Recoverability of deferred tax assets;	

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Valuation of goodwill and intangible assets; and

Valuation of certain assets and derivative financial instruments that are measured using significant unobservable inputs.

146

The following are the Company s significant accounting policies:

(a) Premiums

Gross premiums written and earned are based upon reports received from ceding companies, supplemented by the Company s own estimates of premiums written and earned for which ceding company reports have not been received. The determination of premium estimates requires a review of the Company s experience with cedants, familiarity with each market, an understanding of the characteristics of each line of business and Management s assessment of the impact of various other factors on the volume of business written and ceded to the Company. Premium estimates are updated as new information is received from cedants and differences between such estimates and actual amounts are recorded in the period in which the estimates are changed or the actual amounts are determined. Net premiums written and earned are presented net of ceded premiums, which represent the cost of retrocessional protection purchased by the Company. Premiums are earned on a basis that is consistent with the risks covered under the terms of the reinsurance contracts, which is generally one to two years. For U.S. and European wind and certain other risks, premiums are earned commensurate with the seasonality of the underlying exposure. Reinstatement premiums are recognized as written and earned at the time a loss event occurs, where coverage limits for the remaining life of the contract are reinstated under pre-defined contract terms. The accrual of reinstatement premiums is based on Management s estimate of losses and loss expenses associated with the loss event. Unearned premiums represent the portion of premiums written which is applicable to the unexpired risks under contracts in force.

Premiums related to individual life and annuity business are recorded over the premium-paying period on the underlying policies. Premiums on annuity and universal life contracts for which there is no significant mortality or critical illness risk are accounted for in a manner consistent with accounting for interest-bearing financial instruments and are not reported as revenues, but rather as direct deposits to the contract. Amounts assessed against annuity and universal life policyholders are recognized as revenue in the period assessed.

(b) Losses and Loss Expenses and Life Policy Benefits

The liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses includes amounts determined from loss reports on individual treaties (case reserves), additional case reserves when the Company s loss estimate is higher than reported by the cedants (ACRs) and amounts for losses incurred but not yet reported to the Company (IBNR). Such reserves are estimated by Management based upon reports received from ceding companies, supplemented by the Company s own actuarial estimates of reserves for which ceding company reports have not been received, and based on the Company s own historical experience. To the extent that the Company s own historical experience is inadequate for estimating reserves, such estimates may be determined based upon industry experience and Management s judgment. The estimates are continually reviewed and the ultimate liability may be in excess of, or less than, the amounts provided. Any adjustments are reflected in the periods in which they are determined, which may affect the Company s operating results in future periods.

The liabilities for policy benefits for ordinary life and accident and health policies have been established based upon information reported by ceding companies, supplemented by the Company s actuarial estimates of mortality, critical illness, persistency and future investment income, with appropriate provision to reflect uncertainty. Future policy benefit reserves for annuity and universal life contracts are carried at their accumulated values. Reserves for policy claims and benefits include both mortality and critical illness claims in the process of settlement, and claims that have been incurred but not yet reported.

The Company purchases retrocessional contracts to reduce its exposure to risk of losses on reinsurance assumed. Reinsurance recoverable on paid and unpaid losses involves actuarial estimates consistent with those used to establish the associated liabilities for unpaid losses and loss expenses and life policy benefits.

147

(c) Deferred Acquisition Costs

Acquisition costs, primarily brokerage fees, commissions and excise taxes, which vary directly with, and are related to, the acquisition of reinsurance contracts, are capitalized and charged to expense as the related premium is earned.

Acquisition costs related to individual life and annuity contracts are deferred and amortized over the premium-paying periods in proportion to anticipated premium income, allowing for lapses, terminations and anticipated investment income. Acquisition costs related to universal life and single premium annuity contracts for which there is no significant mortality or critical illness risk are deferred and amortized over the lives of the contracts as a percentage of the estimated gross profits expected to be realized on the contracts.

Actual and anticipated losses and loss expenses, other costs and investment income related to underlying premiums are considered in determining the recoverability of Non-life deferred acquisition costs. Actual and anticipated loss experience, together with the present value of future gross premiums, the present value of future benefits, settlement and maintenance costs are considered in determining the recoverability of life deferred acquisition costs.

(d) Funds Held by Reinsured Companies (Cedants)

The Company writes certain business on a funds held basis. Under such contractual arrangements, the cedant retains the premiums that would have otherwise been paid to the Company and the Company earns interest on these funds. With the exception of those arrangements discussed below, the Company generally earns investment income on the funds held balances based upon a predetermined interest rate, either fixed contractually at the inception of the contract or based upon a recognized index (e.g., LIBOR).

In certain circumstances, the Company may receive an investment return based upon either the result of a pool of assets held by the cedant, generally used to collateralize the funds held balance, or the investment return earned by the cedant on its entire investment portfolio. This is most common in the Company s life reinsurance business. In these arrangements, gross investment returns are typically reflected in net investment income with a corresponding increase or decrease (net of a spread) being recorded as life policy benefits in the Company s Consolidated Statements of Operations. In these arrangements, the Company is exposed, to a limited extent, to the underlying credit risk of the pool of assets inasmuch as the underlying life policies may have guaranteed minimum returns. In such cases, an embedded derivative exists and its fair value is recorded by the Company as an increase or decrease to the funds held balance.

(e) Deposit Assets and Liabilities

In the normal course of its operations, the Company writes certain contracts that do not meet the risk transfer provisions of U.S. GAAP. While these contracts do not meet risk transfer provisions for accounting purposes, there is a remote possibility that the Company will suffer a loss. The Company accounts for these contracts using the deposit accounting method, originally recording deposit liabilities for an amount equivalent to the consideration received. The consideration to be retained by the Company, irrespective of the experience of the contracts, is earned over the expected settlement period of the contracts, with any unearned portion recorded as a component of deposit liabilities. Actuarial studies are used to estimate the final liabilities under these contracts and the appropriate accretion rates to increase or decrease the liabilities over the term of the contracts. The change for the period is recorded in other income or loss in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Under some of these contracts, cedants retain the assets on a funds-held basis. In those cases, the Company records those assets as deposit assets and records the related income in net investment income in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

148

(f) Investments

The Company elects the fair value option for all of its fixed maturities, short-term investments, equities and certain other invested assets (excluding those that are accounted for using the cost or equity methods of accounting or investment company accounting). The Company defines fair value as the price received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Company measures the fair value of financial instruments according to a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the information used to measure fair value into three broad levels. Following the election of the fair value option for an eligible item, changes in that item s fair value in subsequent reporting periods must be recognized in earnings. See Note 3 for additional information on fair value.

The Company elected the fair value option as of the Acquisition Date for all of Paris Re s fixed maturities and short-term investments and certain other invested assets.

Short-term investments comprise securities with a maturity greater than three months but less than one year from the date of purchase.

Other invested assets consist primarily of investments in non-publicly traded companies, private placement equity and fixed maturity investments, derivative financial instruments and other specialty asset classes. Entities in which the Company has an ownership of more than 20% and less than 50% of the voting shares, and limited partnerships in which the Company has more than a minor interest, are accounted for using the equity method. Other invested assets are recorded based on valuation techniques depending on the nature of the individual assets. The valuation techniques used by the Company are generally commensurate with standard valuation techniques for each asset class.

Net investment income includes interest and dividend income, amortization of premiums and discounts on fixed maturities and short-term investments and investment income on funds held and funds held directly managed, and is net of investment expenses and withholding taxes. Investment income is recognized when earned. Realized gains and losses on the disposal of investments are determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Investment purchases and sales are recorded on a trade-date basis.

(g) Funds Held - Directly Managed

The Company elected the fair value option as of the Acquisition Date of Paris Re for substantially all of the fixed maturities, short-term investments and certain other invested assets in the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account, and accordingly, all changes in the fair value of the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account subsequent to the Acquisition Date are recorded in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

(h) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are carried at fair value and include debt securities that, at purchase, have a maturity of three months or less.

(i) Business Combinations

The Company obtained control of Paris Re on the Acquisition Date. The transaction was accounted for as an acquisition method business combination with the purchase price allocated to identifiable assets and liabilities, including certain intangible assets, based on their estimated fair value at the Acquisition Date. The fair value of noncontrolling interests was also recorded at fair value at the Acquisition Date. The estimates of fair values for assets and liabilities assumed were determined by management based on various market and income analyses and appraisals. All costs associated with the acquisition were expensed as incurred.

149

(j) Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired of PartnerRe SA, Winterthur Re and Paris Re. The Company assesses the appropriateness of its valuation of goodwill on at least an annual basis. If, as a result of the assessment, the Company determines that the value of its goodwill is impaired, goodwill will be written down in the period in which the determination is made.

(k) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets represent the fair value adjustments related to unpaid losses and loss expenses and unearned premiums, as well as the fair values of renewal rights and U.S. licenses all arising from the acquisition of Paris Re. Definite-lived intangible assets are amortized over their useful lives, generally ranging from two to eleven years. The Company recognizes the amortization of all intangible assets in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. Indefinite-lived intangible assets are not subject to amortization. The carrying values of intangible assets are regularly reviewed for indicators of impairment. Impairment is recognized if the carrying value of the intangible assets is not recoverable from its undiscounted cash flows and is measured as the difference between the carrying value and the fair value.

(l) Income Taxes

Certain subsidiaries and branches of the Company operate in jurisdictions where they are subject to taxation. Current and deferred income taxes are charged or credited to net income, or, in certain cases, to accumulated other comprehensive income, based upon enacted tax laws and rates applicable in the relevant jurisdiction in the period in which the tax becomes accruable or realizable. Deferred income taxes are provided for all temporary differences between the bases of assets and liabilities used in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and those used in the various jurisdictional tax returns. When Management s assessment indicates that it is more likely than not that deferred income tax assets will not be realized, a valuation allowance is recorded against the deferred tax assets.

The Company recognizes a tax benefit relating to uncertain tax positions only where the position is more likely than not to be sustained assuming examination by tax authorities. A liability must be recognized for any tax benefit (along with any interest and penalty, if applicable) claimed in a tax return in excess of the amount allowed to be recognized in the financial statements under U.S. GAAP. Any changes in amounts recognized are recorded in the period in which they are determined.

(m) Translation of Foreign Currencies

The reporting currency of the Company is the U.S. dollar. The national currencies of the Company s subsidiaries and branches are generally their functional currencies, except for the Company s Bermuda subsidiaries and its Swiss subsidiaries and branch, whose functional currencies are the U.S. dollar. In translating the financial statements of those subsidiaries or branches whose functional currency is other than the U.S. dollar, assets and liabilities are converted into U.S. dollars using the rates of exchange in effect at the balance sheet dates, and revenues and expenses are converted using the average foreign exchange rates for the period. The effect of translation adjustments are reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as currency translation adjustment, a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income.

In recording foreign currency transactions, revenue and expense items are converted into the functional currency at the average rates of exchange for the period. Assets and liabilities originating in currencies other than the functional currency are translated into the functional currency at the rates of exchange in effect at the balance sheet dates. The resulting foreign exchange gains or losses are included in net foreign exchange gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company also records realized and unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses on certain hedged items in net foreign exchange gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations (see Note 2(n)).

150

(n) Derivatives

Derivatives Used in Hedging Activities

The Company utilizes derivative financial instruments as part of its overall currency risk management strategy. The Company recognizes all derivative financial instruments, including embedded derivative instruments, as either assets or liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and measures those instruments at fair value. On the date the Company enters into a derivative contract, Management designates whether the derivative is to be used as a hedge of an identified underlying exposure (a designated hedge). The accounting for gains and losses associated with changes in the fair value of a derivative and the effect on the Consolidated Financial Statements depends on its hedge designation and whether the hedge is highly effective in achieving offsetting changes in the fair value of the asset or liability being hedged.

The derivatives employed by the Company to hedge currency exposure related to fixed income securities and derivatives employed by the Company to hedge currency exposure related to other reinsurance assets and liabilities, except for any hedges of the Company s net investment in non-U.S. dollar functional currency subsidiaries and branches, are not designated as hedges. The changes in fair value of these non-designated hedges are recognized in net foreign exchange gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

As part of its overall strategy to manage its level of currency exposure, from time to time the Company uses forward foreign exchange derivatives to hedge or partially hedge the net investment in certain non-U.S. dollar functional currency subsidiaries and branches. These derivatives have been designated as net investment hedges, and accordingly, the changes in fair value of the derivative and the hedged item related to foreign currency are recognized in currency translation adjustment in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company also uses, from time to time, interest rate derivatives to mitigate exposure to interest rate volatility.

The Company formally documents all relationships between designated hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking various hedge transactions. In this documentation, the Company specifically identifies the asset or liability that has been designated as a hedged item and states how the hedging instrument is expected to hedge the risks related to the hedged item. The Company formally measures effectiveness of its designated hedging relationships, both at the hedge inception and on an ongoing basis. The Company assesses the effectiveness of its designated hedges using the period-to-period dollar offset method on an individual currency basis. If the ratio obtained with this method is within the range of 80% to 125%, the Company considers the hedge effective. The time value component of the designated net investment hedges is included in the assessment of hedge effectiveness.

The Company will discontinue hedge accounting prospectively if it is determined that the derivative is no longer effective in offsetting changes in the fair value of a hedged item. To the extent that the Company discontinues hedge accounting related to its net investment in non-U.S. dollar functional currency of subsidiaries and branches, because, based on Management s assessment, the derivative no longer qualifies as an effective hedge, the derivative will continue to be carried in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at its fair value, with changes in its fair value recognized in net foreign exchange gains and losses.

Other Derivatives

The Company s investment strategy allows for the use of derivative instruments, subject to strict limitations. The Company utilizes various derivative instruments such as foreign exchange forward contracts, foreign currency option contracts, futures contracts, to-be-announced mortgage-backed securities (TBAs) and credit default swaps, for the purpose of managing overall currency risk, market exposures and portfolio duration and hedging certain investments, or enhancing investment performance that would be allowed under the Company s investment policy if implemented in other ways. These instruments are recorded at fair value as assets and liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in fair value are included in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations, except changes in the fair value of

151

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

Table of Contents

foreign currency option contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts which are included in net foreign exchange gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Margin balances required by counterparties, which are equal to a percentage of the total value of open futures contracts, are included in cash and cash equivalents.

The Company has entered into weather and longevity related transactions that are structured as derivatives, which are recorded at fair value with the changes in fair value reported in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The Company has entered into total return and interest rate swaps. Margins related to these swaps are included in other income or loss in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and any changes in the fair value of the swaps are included in net realized and unrealized investment gains and losses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

(o) Treasury Shares

Common shares repurchased by the Company and not cancelled are classified as treasury shares, and are recorded at cost. This results in a reduction of shareholders—equity in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. When shares are reissued from treasury, the Company uses the average cost method to determine the cost of the reissued shares. Gains on sales of treasury shares are credited to additional paid-in capital, while losses are charged to additional paid-in capital to the extent that previous net gains from sales of treasury shares are included therein, otherwise losses are charged to retained earnings.

(p) Net Income per Common Share

Diluted net income per common share is defined as net income available to common shareholders divided by the weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents outstanding, calculated using the treasury stock method for all potentially dilutive securities. Net income available to common shareholders is defined as net income less preferred share dividends. When the effect of dilutive securities would be anti-dilutive, these securities are excluded from the calculation of diluted net income per share. Basic net income per share is defined as net income available to common shareholders divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period, giving no effect to dilutive securities.

(q) Share-Based Compensation

The Company currently uses five types of share-based compensation: share options, restricted shares (RS), restricted share units (RSUs), share-settled share appreciation rights (SSARs) and shares issued under the Company s employee share purchase plans.

The majority of the Company s share-based compensation awards qualify for equity classification. The fair value of the compensation cost is measured at the grant date and is expensed over the period for which the employee is required to provide services in exchange for the award. Forfeiture benefits are estimated at the time of grant and incorporated in the determination of share-based compensation costs. Awards granted to employees who are eligible for retirement and do not have to provide additional services are expensed at the date of grant.

Those share-based compensation awards that do not meet the equity classification criteria, are classified as liability awards. Liability-classified awards are recorded at fair value in the Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other in the Consolidated Balance Sheets with changes in fair value relating to the vested portion of the award recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

152

(r) Pensions

The Company recognizes an asset or a liability in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for the funded status of its defined benefit plans that are overfunded or underfunded, respectively, measured as the difference between the fair value of plan assets and the pension obligation and recognizes changes in the funded status of defined benefit plans in the year in which the changes occur as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income or loss, net of tax.

(s) Variable Interest Entities

The Company is involved in the normal course of business with variable interest entities (VIEs) as a passive investor in certain limited partnerships, fixed maturity investments and asset-backed securities, that are issued by third party VIEs. Prior to January 1, 2010, under then effective guidance, the Company performed a quantitative assessment upon initial involvement in a VIE to determine whether it was the primary beneficiary of, and required to consolidate, the VIE. Subsequent to January 1, 2010, in accordance with revised guidance, the Company performs a qualitative assessment at the date when it becomes initially involved in the VIE followed by ongoing reassessments related to its involvement in VIEs. The Company s maximum exposure to loss with respect to these investments is limited to the investment carrying amounts reported in the Company s Consolidated Balance Sheets and any unfunded commitments.

The Company also has three indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries, PartnerRe Finance A LLC, PartnerRe Finance B LLC and PartnerRe Finance II Inc., that are considered to be VIEs, which were utilized to issue the Company s Senior Notes and Capital Efficient Notes (CENts). The Company determined that it was not the primary beneficiary of any of these VIEs at December 31, 2011. As a result, the Company has not consolidated PartnerRe Finance A LLC, PartnerRe Finance B LLC and PartnerRe Finance II Inc., and has reflected the debt issued by the Company related to the Senior Notes and CENts as liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets (see Note 11). The interest on the debt related to the Senior Notes and CENts is reported as interest expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

(t) Segment Reporting

The Company monitors the performance of its operations in three segments, Non-life, Life and Corporate and Other. The Non-life segment is further divided into four sub-segments: North America, Global (Non-U.S.) Property and Casualty (Global (Non-U.S.) P&C), Global (Non-U.S.) Specialty and Catastrophe.

Segments and sub-segments represent markets that are reasonably homogeneous in terms of geography, client types, buying patterns, underlying risk patterns or approach to risk management.

(u) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued new accounting guidance clarifying that only acquisition costs related directly to the successful acquisition of new or renewal insurance contracts may be capitalized. Those acquisition costs that may be capitalized include incremental direct costs, such as commissions, and a portion of salaries and benefits of certain employees who are involved in underwriting and policy issuance, that are directly related to time spent on an acquired contract. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company does not expect the adoption of this guidance to have an impact on its consolidated shareholders—equity or net income.

In May 2011, the FASB issued new accounting guidance, which updates the existing guidance, related to fair value measurement and disclosures. The guidance clarifies or changes the application of certain existing requirements and does not extend the use of fair value. The guidance also requires additional disclosures including details of transfers between Levels 1 and 2 of the fair value hierarchy and increased quantitative and qualitative information relating to fair value measurements categorized under Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company does

153

not expect the adoption of this guidance to have an impact on its consolidated shareholders equity or net income and is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of this guidance on its disclosures.

In September 2011, the FASB issued new accounting guidance, which updates the existing guidance, related to goodwill impairment testing. The amendments revise the application of certain existing requirements to allow the option of performing a qualitative goodwill impairment assessment before calculating the fair value of reporting units, which could, depending on the results of the assessment, eliminate the need for further testing of goodwill for impairment. The guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 with early adoption permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of this guidance to have an impact on its consolidated shareholders equity or net income.

In December 2011, the FASB issued new guidance aimed at enhancing disclosures about financial and derivative instruments and transactions subject to offsetting arrangements. The guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of this guidance on its disclosures.

3. Fair Value

(a) Fair Value of Financial Instrument Assets

The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value by maximizing the use of observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are inputs that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the Company s assumptions about what market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the best information available in the circumstances. The level in the hierarchy within which a given fair value measurement falls is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the measurement.

The Company determines the appropriate level in the hierarchy for each financial instrument that it measures at fair value. In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches, including market, income and cost approaches. The hierarchy is broken down into three levels based on the observability of inputs as follows:

Level 1 inputs Unadjusted, quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access. The Company s financial instruments that it measures at fair value using Level 1 inputs generally include: equities listed on a major exchange, exchange traded funds and exchange traded derivatives, such as futures and weather derivatives that are actively traded.

Level 2 inputs Quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets and significant directly or indirectly observable inputs, other than quoted prices, used in industry accepted models

The Company s financial instruments that it measures at fair value using Level 2 inputs generally include: U.S. Government issued bonds; U.S. Government sponsored enterprises bonds; U.S. state, territory and municipal entities bonds; Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government related bonds consisting primarily of bonds issued by non-U.S. national governments and their agencies, non-U.S. regional governments and supranational organizations; investment grade and high yield corporate bonds; catastrophe bonds; mortality bonds; asset-backed securities; mortgage-backed securities; certain equities traded on foreign exchanges; certain fixed income mutual funds; foreign exchange forward contracts; over-the-counter derivatives such as foreign currency option contracts, non-exchange traded futures, credit default swaps, interest rate swaps and TBAs.

Level 3 inputs Unobservable inputs.

The Company s financial instruments that it measures at fair value using Level 3 inputs generally include: inactively traded fixed maturities including U.S. state, territory and municipal bonds; privately

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

154

issued corporate securities; special purpose financing asset-backed bonds; unlisted equities; real estate mutual fund investments; credit-linked notes; inactively traded weather derivatives; notes, annuities and loans receivable and longevity and other total return swaps.

The Company s financial instruments measured at fair value include investments classified as trading securities, certain other invested assets and the segregated investment portfolio underlying the funds held directly managed account (see Notes 4 and 5). At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company s financial instruments measured at fair value were categorized between Levels 1, 2 and 3 as follows (in thousands of U.S. dollars):

December 31, 2011	Quoted prices in active markets for Significant other identical assets observable inputs (Level 1) (Level 2)		rvable inputs	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)			Total	
Fixed maturities								
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$		\$	1,115,777	\$		\$	1,115,777
U.S. states, territories and municipalities				12,269		111,415		123,684
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government								
related				2,964,091				2,964,091
Corporate				5,635,297		111,700		5,746,997
Asset-backed securities				376,384		257,415		633,799
Residential mortgage-backed securities				3,282,901				3,282,901
Other mortgage-backed securities				74,580				74,580
				,				,
Fixed maturities	¢		\$	13,461,299	ф	480,530	¢ 1	3,941,829
	\$ \$				\$	400,330		, ,
Short-term investments	Þ		\$	42,571	\$		\$	42,571
Equities	ф	124 (07	ф	154	ф		ф	124.051
Consumer noncyclical	\$	124,697	\$	154	\$		\$	124,851
Energy		83,403		858		0.670		84,261
Finance		69,722		191		9,670		79,583
Technology		74,729		44				74,729
Communications		64,036		44				64,080
Industrials		58,254						58,254
Insurance		58,017		400				58,017
Consumer cyclical		52,305		108				52,413
Other		69,457		239		< 40.0		69,696
Mutual funds and exchange traded funds		35,285		237,027		6,495		278,807
Equities	\$	689,905	\$	238,621	\$	16,165	\$	944,691
Other invested assets								
Derivative assets								
Foreign exchange forward contracts	\$		\$	7,865	\$		\$	7,865
Foreign currency option contracts				1,074				1,074
Futures contracts		13,524		48				13,572
Credit default swaps (protection purchased)				92				92
Credit default swaps (assumed risks)				246				246
Total return swaps				443		7,230		7,673
TBAs				747		ĺ		747
Other assets						91,405		91,405
Derivative liabilities						ĺ		
Foreign exchange forward contracts				(5,816)				(5,816)
Foreign currency option contracts				(321)				(321)
Futures contracts		(12,905)		(1,268)				(14,173)
Credit default swaps (protection purchased)		(,)		(1,285)				(1,285)
Credit default swaps (assumed risks)				(772)				(772)
Insurance-linked securities				()		(968)		(968)
Total return swaps						(640)		(640)
Interest rate swaps				(7,992)		(0.10)		(7,992)
TBAs				(58)				(58)
Other liabilities				(137)				(137)
				(20.)				(20.)
04	ø	710	ø	(7.124)	ø	07.027	ø	00.513
Other invested assets Funds held directly managed	\$	619	\$	(7,134)	\$	97,027	\$	90,512
runus neid uirectiy managed								

Edgar Filing: PARTNERRE LTD - Form 10-K

U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$	\$ 268,539	\$	\$	268,539
U.S. states, territories and municipalities			334		334
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government					
related		274,665			274,665
Corporate		480,485			480,485
Short-term investments		18,097			18,097
Other invested assets			15,433		15,433
Funds held directly managed	\$	\$ 1,041,786	\$ 15,767	\$	1,057,553
Total	\$ 690,524	\$ 14,777,143	\$ 609,489	\$ 1	6,077,156

December 31, 2010	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	obser	ficant other vable inputs Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Total	
Fixed maturities						
U.S. government and government sponsored enterprises	\$	\$	906,032	\$	\$ 906,0)32
U.S. states, territories and municipalities			11,568	55,124	66,6	592
Non-U.S. sovereign government, supranational and government						
related			2,819,193		2,819,1	193
Corporate			6,066,865	76,982	6,143,8	347
Asset-backed securities			343,518 &r	nbs		