

BAWAG P.S.K. NOW BEST-RATED AUSTRIAN BANK AFTER MOODY'S UPGRADE TO A3

VIENNA, Austria – April 13, 2016 – Yesterday Moody's Investors Service again announced several rating upgrades of BAWAG P.S.K. The Bank's long-term deposit, senior unsecured and issuer ratings were all raised by one notch to A3 from Baa1 and the outlook was maintained as "positive". In addition, the Bank's standalone rating (baseline credit assessment) as well as its senior subordinate rating were upgraded to baa2 and Baa3 (investment grade for the first time), respectively. This rating action was the second upgrade within the last ten months. Back in July 2015, Moody's had already upgraded all above mentioned ratings by one notch.

The current rating upgrades make BAWAG P.S.K. the best-rated bank in Austria and, according to Moody's, reflect BAWAG P.S.K.'s stronger-than-anticipated recovery in profitability, the continued de-risking of its balance sheet as well as the continuous build-up of the bank's capital adequacy ratios. The rating agency indicates further upside potential for the stand-alone rating over a 12-18 month outlook horizon.

Byron Haynes, Chief Executive Officer of BAWAG P.S.K., commented: "These rating upgrades are a testament to our accomplishments over the past few years and the successful transformation of our business model by focusing on core products, cost efficiency, low leverage and a conservative risk profile, positioning BAWAG P.S.K. now as the best-rated Austrian bank. We will continue to execute on a variety of operational and strategic initiatives that will continue to drive efficiency, operational excellence and profitable growth."

Further details are available on our Investor Relations website under the "Ratings" section: <u>https://www.bawagpsk.com/Ratings</u>

About BAWAG P.S.K.

BAWAG P.S.K. is one of Austria's largest banking institutions with 1.6 million customers and a well-recognized national brand. The Bank focuses on three business segments:

Retail Banking and Small Business offers simple, fair and transparent products and services which include lending, savings, payment, card, investment, insurance and leasing services for private and small business customers. These products and services are available through our branches all over Austria which are complemented by our digital sales channels and 100% owned direct bank easybank.

Austrian corporate businesses as well as international activities are managed within the **Corporate Lending and Investments** segment. The majority of the Bank's lending activities are within Austria. The international business is focused on corporate, commercial real estate and portfolio financing primarily in Western Europe and the United States.

Treasury Services and Markets includes all activities associated with providing hedging and investment services for the Group's treasury activities and the management of the Bank's portfolio of financial securities.

BAWAG P.S.K. focuses on a capital efficient, low risk and low leverage business model while targeting to be one of the most efficient banks across Europe. Delivering simple, transparent and best-in-class products and services to our customers is the core of our strategy.



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