

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE ORAL HEARING OF THE FORTIS SETTLEMENT

ex article 1013 paragraph 5 of the Dutch Code of Civil Procedure, upon request and instruction of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal

This announcement is addressed to all natural persons and legal entities who have acquired or held Fortis shares at any time during the period after February 28, 2007 through October 14, 2008 (these are the “**eligible shareholders**”) and to foundations or associations with full legal authority, which pursuant to their articles of association represent the interests of eligible shareholders.

Agreement

An agreement has been concluded between Ageas (the former Fortis), VEB, Deminor, SICAF, FortisEffect and Stichting FORsettlement, in order to collectively settle claims of all eligible shareholders.

Content of the agreement

The agreement provides an arrangement for eligible shareholders allowing them to receive compensation, under certain conditions, in connection with the events that occurred in 2007 and 2008 at the former Fortis (now Ageas). It concerns events that may have impacted the price of the shares, specifically the communication (or the lack thereof) and the policy of Fortis with regard to its financial position, the takeover of ABN AMRO and the run-up to the break-up of Fortis, as described in more detail in the agreement.

Request for binding declaration

On May 23, 2016, the parties to the agreement have requested the Amsterdam Court of Appeal to declare this agreement binding for all eligible shareholders.¹

Consequences of binding declaration

If the Amsterdam Court of Appeal declares the agreement binding, all eligible shareholders will be bound to the agreement. In certain cases, the agreement gives the eligible shareholders a claim to compensation under the conditions set out in the agreement. In addition, pursuant to the agreement the eligible shareholders shall fully and finally release Ageas, the (former) directors and officers of Ageas and the underwriting banks from any claim relating to the events that occurred in 2007 and 2008 at Fortis.

Eligible shareholders who do not wish to be bound to the agreement can submit a statement to that effect (an “**opt-out notice**”) within a period to be determined by the Amsterdam Court of Appeal which will be at least 3 months after the agreement has been declared binding. Eligible shareholders who submit a legally valid opt-out notice are not bound to the agreement but can not derive any right from the agreement either, such as a potential claim to compensation. An opt-out notice may only be submitted after the Amsterdam Court of Appeal has declared the agreement binding.

Submission of a written defense

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¹ In accordance with article 7:907 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Eligible shareholders and foundations or associations with full legal authority, which pursuant to their articles of association represent the interests of shareholders of Fortis, may submit a written defense against the request to declare the agreement binding. A defense must be submitted by an attorney. A defense, with any annexes, must be submitted in quadruplicate in Dutch to the Amsterdam Court of Appeal (Gerechtshof Amsterdam, Afdeling civiel recht en belastingrecht, attn. Mrs. S.A.W.M. Rodrigues Parreira, PO Box 1312, 1000 BH Amsterdam), with reference to case number 200.191.713/01 and with simultaneous copies to the attorneys of the parties who have submitted the request. The final date for submitting a defense is February 10, 2017. There are costs associated with the submission of a defense (attorney fees and court fee).

Invitation for the oral hearing

The Amsterdam Court of Appeal has set a date for the oral hearing to deal with the request to declare the agreement binding and any defenses. All eligible shareholders are hereby invited to attend this oral hearing.

The oral hearing will take place on March 24, 2017 from 10:00 am at the *Paleis van Justitie* at the IJdok 20 in Amsterdam. You can find a map and information about parking at www.rechtspraak.nl under “*organisatie en contact*.”

Attending the oral hearing

It is not mandatory to attend the oral hearing. Eligible shareholders who are not present at the oral hearing will retain their rights to compensation pursuant to the agreement or the right to submit an opt-out notice. Eligible shareholders who want to attend the oral hearing as an observer must inform the Amsterdam Court of Appeal thereof in writing or by email no later than February 24, 2017. Those who wish to speak during the oral hearing must explicitly state this in their message to the Court of Appeal. The notification must be sent to the Amsterdam Court of Appeal (Gerechtshof Amsterdam, Afdeling civiel recht en belastingrecht, attn. Mrs. S.A.W.M. Rodrigues Parreira, PO Box 1312, 1000 BH Amsterdam) or wcam.hof-amsterdam@rechtspraak.nl, with reference to case number 200.191.713/01. The time to speak during the oral hearing is limited to 15 minutes per person for those who have submitted a defense, and 5 minutes per person for other interested parties.

More information and contact

The petition can be viewed, downloaded and printed at www.rechtspraak.nl (under “*Uitspraken en nieuws*”) and www.forsettlement.com. The agreement and the related documentation can also be found on the latter website. We recommend that you reference the website www.forsettlement.com to follow any further notifications.

If you have any questions, please contact the Contact Center FORsettlement:

- Belgium: 0800 26 832
- The Netherlands: +31 (0)30 25 25 359
- International: +32 (0)2 557 59 00