



**The Board's statement pursuant to Chapter 18, section 4 of the Swedish Companies Act.**

At the end of the year, the retained earnings of the Group were SEK 19,107 (16,804) million and the parent company's unrestricted equity was SEK 52,407 (50,436) million. The equity included unrealized profits resulting from financial instruments being reported at market value in the amount of SEK 0 (0) million.

The net debt was SEK 11,574 (17,887) million, resulting the net debt/equity ratio decreasing with 12 percentage points, from 34 to 22 percent. Since the Group's operations are dependent on the business cycle, the target is that the net debt/equity ratio will not normally exceed 35%. The Group had a positive result after tax of SEK 2,311 million.

SSAB's goal to reduce the net debt by SEK 10 billion between the beginning of the first quarter of 2016 and the end of 2017 was exceeded by SEK 2.2 billion. From the end of the first quarter 2016, the net debt decreased by SEK 12.2 billion.

Considering this background, the Board proposes to the Annual General Meeting dividend to be paid by SEK 1.00 per share, corresponding to SEK 1,030 million.

The Board believes that the proposed distribution of profit to the shareholder is justifiable with respect to both the Company and the Group, taking into consideration the demands placed by the nature, scope and risks associated with the operations regarding the size of equity and also taking into account the need to consolidate the balance sheet, financing, liquidity and financial position in general.

The Board of Directors' statement regarding the dividend proposal in the annual report has been reviewed by the auditor.

Stockholm, March, 2018  
SSAB AB (publ.)  
The Board of Directors