

**AGM 20 March 2024** 

# Nomination Committee's recommendation



# Marel Nomination Committee Recommendations to the Board of Directors February 2024

### 1 Recommendations

Marel's Nomination Committee puts forth the following recommendations to Marel's (Company) Board of Directors (Board) in relation to the Annual General Meeting on 20 March 2024.

# 1.1 Chair of the Annual General Meeting

The Nomination Committee recommends that the Board of Directors propose to shareholders that Arni Sigurjonsson, General Counsel of Marel, be elected Chair of the Annual General Meeting.

# 1.2 Candidates to the Board of Directors

The Nomination Committee recommends that the Board of Directors propose to shareholders that the following candidates, listed in alphabetical order, will be elected to serve on the Board:

- Ann Elizabeth Savage
- Arnar Thor Masson
- · Astvaldur Johannsson
- Lillie Li Valeur
- Olafur Gudmundsson
- Svafa Grönfeldt
- Ton van der Laan

Section 3 of this report includes candidate profiles.

In line with Icelandic law, the Board of Directors convenes immediately following the General Meeting in which it is elected to allocate responsibilities between the Board Directors. The Board of Directors elects a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as well as the Chairmen and members of its committees.

# **Competences and experience**

The Nomination Committee has designed a skills matrix, endorsed by the Board, to ensure the Board consists of individuals with a balance of skills to oversee the Company, achieve strategic goals, and direct its future. All Directors are expected to possess a full set of personal attributes in addition to sound professional knowledge and experience and contribute to the collective industry skills set held by the Board.

The Nomination Committee has outlined the following key personal attributes that all Directors must individually possess: Commitment, integrity and ethics, effective communication, critical and innovative thinking, contribution, leadership, and ability to work as part of a team.

Additionally, the Board shall collectively have the skills, knowledge, and experience to effectively govern and direct the Company. The Nomination Committee has outlined the following competencies and experience that should be represented by the Board collectively.



Information on how the above competencies and experiences are represented by individual candidates to the Board is in section 3 of this report. In the Nomination Committee's view the proposed Board's composition fulfills all of the above competencies and requirements.

### **Diversity**

The Board as a whole should encompass desirable diversity in aspects such as nationality, gender, age, education and different perspectives.

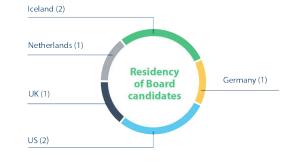
The Nomination Committee has assessed that the proposed Board of Directors fulfills the gender quota requirements for corporate boards, as stipulated in Article 63 of the Icelandic Act on Public limited companies no. 2/1995, where it is stated that it shall be ensured that the gender ratio is not lower than 40% for boards with more than 3 board members.



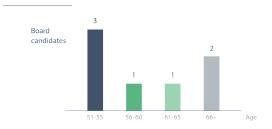
Board candidates are of 4 different nationalities, residing in 5 different countries. Their age spans from 53 to 71 years and tenure as Directors in Marel spans from 3 to 23 years with a median of 10 years. The Nomination Committee considers the Board candidates to have broad education, skills and experiences to support different voices and perspectives within the Board.

Information on Candidate's education, skills, competencies and experience are in section 3 of this report.

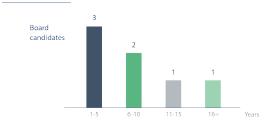
# **Residency of Board candidates**



# Age of Board candidates



# Tenure of Board candidates



# Independence

The Nomination Committee has assessed that the seven proposed candidates fulfill the requirements regarding independence in the Icelandic Corporate Governance Code. All proposed candidates are independent of the Company. All candidates are independent of large shareholders, with the exception of Olafur Gudmundsson, who is a member of the Board of Directors of Eyrir Invest, holding 24.69% of Marel shares on 14 February 2024.

It is noted that the tenure of a Director does not affect the independency assessment, in line with the Icelandic Corporate Governance Code.

# 2 Background and Reasoning

The Board of Directors is accountable to all Marel's shareholders and other stakeholders for the way the Company conducts its business. The composition of the Board must therefore be such that the consolidated competences of its members are aligned with Marel's long-term strategy, enabling it to inspire, guide and oversee the Company's development and diligently address and resolve the issues and problems faced at any time.

The Nomination Committee is a committee of the Board, established in accordance with the Board's Rules of Procedure.

The Nomination Committee shall assist the Board with the process and oversight of Board succession development and identification and nomination of Board candidates.

The Board is responsible for the appointment and activities of the Nomination Committee and it operates under the Board's authority.

The Nomination Committee's Rules of Procedure can be found on Marel's website: marel.com

# 2.1 Composition and independence

The Nomination Committee is composed of three Board Directors, Lillie Li Valeur (Chairman), Arnar Thor Masson and Olafur Gudmundsson. All members are independent of the Company. Gudmundsson is a member of the board of directors of Eyrir Invest, Marel's largest shareholder. Masson is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Marel.

# 2.2 Main Activities

The Nomination Committee met 6 times during 2023 and meeting attendance was 100%.

According to the Nomination Committee's Rules of Procedure, the Nomination Committee shall assist the Board with the process and oversight of Board succession planning and identification and nomination of Board candidates as well as members of the Board's

committees. The Nomination Committee may obtain reasonable assistance from external or internal advisors when performing its tasks and duties. In the process of identifying suitable candidates, the Committee shall generally solicit the services of internationally recognized advisors to facilitate the search.

A search for new Board candidates to ensure renewal in the Board was prominent in the work of the Nomination Committee during 2023. After a thorough selection process the global organizational consulting firm was engaged as an advisor to facilitate the search for suitable Board candidates. In January 2024, John Bean Technologies Corporation, announced its intention to launch a voluntary takeover offer for all issued and outstanding shares in Marel in the first quarter of 2024. Due to uncertainty on the voluntary takeover offer and its outcome, the Nomination Committee decided to discontinue the search for new Board candidates and propose that current Board directors will be re-elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

In order to fulfill its role, the Nomination Committee undertook or supported the following activities in preparation for the upcoming Annual General Meeting:

- Reviewed and evaluated the structure, size and composition of the Board and its committees;
- Reviewed succession planning for Board Directors taking into account the challenges and opportunities facing the Company;
- Reviewed the Board skills matrix, outlining the key personal attributes all Directors must possess, as well as the professional knowledge and experience the Board shall collectively have to effectively govern and direct the Company;
- Reviewed the diversity ambition of the Board and the composition for the Board in relation of diversity;
- Managed an annual competence self-assessment of the Board Directors, and reviewed the results with regards to diversity, challenges and opportunities facing the Company and professional knowledge and experience the Board shall collectively have to effectively govern and direct the Company;
- Reviewed the tenure of Board Directors and evaluated the Director's independence of the Company and its major shareholders;
- Reviewed meeting attendance of Board Directors and members of the Board's committees;
- Reviewed the directorships of Board Directors in terms of overboarding;
- Meetings were held between the Chairman of the Board and several of the Company's largest shareholders where the focus was on discussing corporate governance matters, including Board composition and succession, skill areas which would be beneficial to strengthen and the nomination process;

- Discussions with internal stakeholders, including Board Directors and CEO, on Board composition and skills/experience which would be beneficial to strengthen the Board going forward;
- Reviewed the Company's website and ensured that the website includes information on how shareholders can submit proposals to the Nomination Committee;
- Engaged with a global organizational consulting firm
  to facilitate a search for new Board candidates to
  ensure Board renewal. A position and candidate
  specification were prepared, outlining criteria
  for knowledge and skills, experience, attributes,
  competencies and past positions of new Board
  candidate(s), as well as outlining how potential
  candidate(s) complemented the existing Board. An
  assessment was made on how potential candidate(s)
  complemented the existing Board with regards to
  diversity, Board composition and challenges and
  opportunities facing the Company. Long- and short
  lists of Board candidates were screened, potential
  candidates interviewed, and references reviewed.
- In January 2024 the Nomination Committee decided to discontinue the Board candidate search, due to John Bean Technologies Corporation announcing the intention to launch a voluntary takeover offer for all issued and outstanding shares in Marel in the first quarter of 2024.
- Prepared a report with the Nomination Committee's recommendations to the Board. The report is shared with the Company's shareholders prior to the Annual General Meeting in order to provide transparency to the nomination process;
- The Committee reviewed its Rules of procedures during the year and recommended to the Board to approve the Rules of procedure unchanged between years.
- The Committee assessed its own performance during the year as part of an annual self-assessment of the Board. Externally facilitated assessment is conducted at least every third year, and the last external assessment was during 2021.

# **3 Candidate Profiles**

Candidate profiles, listed in alphabetical order.

# 3.1 Ann Elizabeth Savage



Ann Savage, born in 1957, most recently worked for Gousto, a UK meal kit manufacturer and retailer,

where she was in an advisory role and headed the Food Technical function. Savage previously served as Group Technical Director of Bakkavor. Her primary responsibilities have included food safety, health and safety management, manufacturing excellence and corporate social responsibility management in the UK, US and Asia. Savage has held a variety of roles in technical and research and development departments within the retail and food industry over her 40-year career. She worked for the Cooperative Wholesale Society (CWS), Northern Foods from 1990 until 1999 and at Geest/Bakkavor for over 19 years.

Savage's responsibilities have included representing businesses with UK regulators such as Food Standards Agency, Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs and Health Protection England. She has chaired the Food Network for Ethical Trade, the IGD Technical Leadership Forum, and has been a member of the advisory group for the Better Regulation Task Force and the British Retail Consortium Advisory Board. Savage has worked closely with UK retailers to deliver on their corporate social responsibility commitments and to develop reporting procedures.

She has experience in operational management, product development and incident management. She has worked with Farm Africa in both Tanzania and Kenya to support African endeavors in tilapia fish farming and beekeeping. She is a member of her parish council and previously served as a Governor of Boston College, a UK College of Further Education.

Savage holds a degree in Systems and Technology from the Open University and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management Studies from Nottingham University.

Savage was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2013. She is a member of the Audit Committee.

Savage neither holds shares nor share options in the Company. She has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.

## 3.2 Arnar Thor Masson



Arnar Masson, born in 1971, is an independent advisor and board member. Masson is currently on the board of directors of Siminn, the largest telecom company in Iceland, listed on Nasdaq Iceland, where he also serves on the remuneration committee, and on the board of directors of Íslandshótel, Iceland's largest hotel chain. Masson is a member of the University Council of the University of Iceland and is a board member of Festa – the center for sustainability in Iceland.

Masson was Chief Human Resources and Strategy Officer at Isavia, a company that handles the operations and development of all airports in Iceland. Prior to that he was an alternate director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London, an investment and development bank that works primarily with private sector clients in developing economies.

Before joining EBRD Masson worked in the Government Offices in Iceland. First in the Ministry of Finance and later as a Director-General in the Prime Minister's Office. From 2000-2008 Masson held an adjunct lecturer position at the Department of Political Science of the University of Iceland. Masson has experience in strategy development and implementation, human resources, ESG, M&A, political affairs and has worked with emerging markets. He has done executive courses for board directors both at Harvard Business School and IMD.

Masson holds a Board Director Diploma from International Institute for Management Development (IMD). He holds a MSc degree in Comparative Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a BA degree in Political Science from the University of Iceland.

Masson was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2001. He is the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and a member of the Nomination Committee.

Masson holds 250,000 shares in the Company, but no share options. He has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.

# 3.3 Astvaldur Johannsson



Astvaldur Johannsson, born in 1961, is running Special Projects within Operations at Controlant, a global real-time monitoring software solution provider (IoT) focusing on the Pharmaceutical industry. Previously, Johannsson was a board member of Festi hf., a holding company of five operating companies focusing on

investments and support services for its operating companies; Bakkinn vöruhótel, ELKO, Festi Fasteignir, Krónan and N1. Shares in Festi hf. are listed on the Nasdaq Iceland stock exchange.

Johannsson's previous international business experiences include senior management positions within different markets at Össur hf., a global medical devices manufacturer, and leading the international division of Valitor hf., an eCommerce payment solutions and services provider as Executive Director. Previously Johannsson served as member of the Executive Team of the IT company Nyherji hf. (currently known as Origo hf.), as Sales and Marketing Director at Penninn retail chain, and as system analyst expert in the IT sector focusing on process design and development.

Johannsson is a proactive professional with extensive international experience of leadership within different marketplaces in the EU, US and Asia, in multi-national culture, and cross-functional environments, both on executive and board level. He has a comprehensive background and knowledge in formulating and implementing policy and strategy, leading and integrating new businesses and initiatives to improve business performance. Johannsson has a solid background in managing business-to-business and business-to-consumer sales and marketing, business development, supply chain, outsourcing, negotiating, contracts and product management along with operations knowledge and experience in varying industries with progressive and successful organizations.

Johannsson holds a MBA degree from the University of Iceland and a BS degree in Management Information Systems from Heriot-Watt University.

Johannsson was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2014. He is a member of the Audit Committee.

Johannsson holds 4,900 shares in the Company, but no share options. He has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.

# 3.4 Lillie Li Valeur



Lillie Li Valeur, born in 1970, is a Chinese born Danish citizen residing in Germany. Valeur is currently the CEO of Arla Foods GmbH, she also serves as a member of

the board of directors of Plus Pack A/S, a multinational Denmark-based packaging company.

Valeur has extensive international experience in the food, ingredients and pharmaceutical industries, with special focus on EMEA, Asia, emerging markets, commercial leadership, innovation, M&A and strategic partnerships. Valeur has served as CEO for Good Food Group A/S and COCIO A/S in Denmark. Over 19 years with Arla Foods amba, a leading global dairy company, Valeur held several senior management roles, both in Asia and globally, including VP Greater China, VP South East Asia and VP Global Milk Based Beverages. Prior to that, she held various international business management positions at Lundbeck in Denmark, Novartis Consumer Health Co. in Shanghai, as well as a management consulting position at Bain & Company in Beijing.

Valeur was a member of the board of directors, remuneration committee and science & innovation committee of Chr. Hansen Holding, a global Denmark-based bioscience company, listed on Nasdaq Copenhagen, from 2020-2022. She was a member of the board of directors and audit committee of AAK, a global Sweden-based plant-based oils and fats company, listed on Nasdaq Stockholm, from 2013 to 2020, and was a member of the board of directors of Meda, an European Swedish-based specialty pharmaceutical company, from 2015 to 2016.

Valeur holds a degree in Medicine from Shanghai Medical University and a MBA degree from China European International Business School in Shanghai.

Valeur was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2020. She is Chairman of the Nomination Committee and a member of the Remuneration Committee.

Valeur neither holds shares nor share options in the Company. She has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.

# 3.5 Olafur Gudmundsson



Olafur Gudmundsson, born in 1969, is currently the Head of Discovery Pharmaceutics and Analytical Sciences at Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS), a global biopharmaceutical company. For more than two decades, Gudmundsson has held roles of increasing responsibility within research and development,

covering multiple therapeutic areas and stages of drug discovery, both for Bristol-Myers Squibb and Genentech. During his tenure at BMS, Gudmundsson has helped bring multiple drug candidates to clinical trials, several of which have become marketed products. In his time within the pharmaceutical industry, Gudmundsson's responsibilities have included involvement with global portfolio strategy, evaluation of external acquisitions, strategic innovations, and integration of merged companies. Gudmundsson has participated in governance teams providing input on global portfolio optimization and prioritization, lead process optimization teams and chaired integration teams.

Gudmundsson is also associated with the graduate program of the Pharmaceutical Chemistry department at Purdue University. Currently, Gudmundsson is a board member of Eyrir Invest and Noruz.

Gudmundsson holds a Ph.D. degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of Kansas and a Cand.Pharm. degree from the University of Iceland.

Gudmundsson was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2014. He is the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors, member of the Remuneration Committee and the Nomination Committee.

Gudmundsson holds 1,705,427 shares in the Company, but no share options. He has no interest links with the Company's main customers. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Eyrir Invest, Marel's largest shareholder.

# 3.6 Svafa Grönfeldt



Svafa Grönfeldt, born in 1965, is a Professor of Practice at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is a founding member of MIT's newest innovation accelerator DesignX focused on the design and development of technology- and service-based ventures created at MIT. Grönfeldt is the co-founder of The MET fund, a Cambridge based seed investment fund. She is the vice-chairman of the board of directors of Össur since 2008, a global leader in orthopaedic solutions listed on Nasdaq Copenhagen, and member of the board of directors and audit committee of Icelandair since 2019, an airline listed on Nasdaq Iceland.

Previous positions include executive leadership positions at two global life science companies where

she served as Chief Organizational and Development Officer of Alvogen and Deputy to the CEO of Actavis Group. For more than twenty years, her executive career has been focused on organizational design for high growth companies, strategy implementation, service process design, and performance tracking as well as the integration of acquired companies and new business units. She is former President of Reykjavik University.

Grönfeldt holds a Ph.D. from London School of Economics where she examined the impact of customer-oriented behaviors and service design on business outcomes.

Grönfeldt was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2021. She is Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Grönfeldt neither holds shares nor share options in the Company. She has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.

3.7 Ton van der Laan

Ton van der Laan
ABDGMNO

Ton van der Laan, born in 1953, is a Dutch national residing in the Netherlands. He currently serves as chairman of the Supervisory Board of Royal de Heus, a global feed company and vice-chairman of the board of directors of Rainforest Alliance in New York. He is a non-executive board member of Dümmen Orange, a company active in flower and plant genetics, and a board member of the United Feed Company in Saudi Arabia.

Van der Laan has extensive experience from several executive roles in the food, feed and commodity industries. He is the former CEO of Nidera, a company globally active in financing and distribution of grains and oilseeds. Before that he was responsible as Executive Vice President for Cargill Animal Proteins and Animal Nutrition globally and CEO of Provimi in the Netherlands, one of the global leaders in animal nutrition.

Previously, for over 22 years, van der Laan held several executive roles at Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer food company, where he was located in the Netherlands, UK, Czech Republic and Slovakia. He has also served as Managing Director of Philips Domestic Appliances and Personal Care. Van der Laan possesses extensive experience in multi-national businesses, strategic planning, portfolio management,

acquisitions and company restructuring, large and small scale integrations and top team development.

Van der Laan holds a MS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Twente University, completed "The New Board Program" at Nyenrode Business University and an executive course at Harvard Business School.

Van der Laan was elected to the Board of Directors of Marel in 2019. He is a member of the Audit Committee.

Van der Laan neither holds shares nor share options in the Company. He has no interest links with the Company's main customers, competitors or major shareholders.