

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-K**

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018

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 001-36169

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Bermuda**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**98-1120002**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**Waterloo House**  
**100 Pitts Bay Road**  
**Pembroke, Bermuda HM 08**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(441) 278-0400**

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

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Shares, par value \$1.00 per share ("Common Shares")	New York Stock Exchange and Bermuda Stock Exchange

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  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

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  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the 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.

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

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the outstanding Common Shares held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (based on the New York Stock Exchange closing price as of June 30, 2018 for Common Shares) was \$64,674,500.

As of February 25, 2019, 8,767,165 Common Shares were outstanding.

#### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Certain portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement relating to its 2019 Annual General Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report.

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## CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements under "Item 1. *Business*," "Item 7. *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*" and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 (the "Form 10-K") may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("PSLRA"). The PSLRA provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance. Such statements include forward-looking statements with respect to us specifically and the insurance and reinsurance business generally, investments, capital markets and the general economic environments in which we operate. Statements which include the words "expect," "intend," "plan," "believe," "project," "anticipate," "seek," "will," and similar statements of a future or forward-looking nature identify forward-looking statements for purposes of the PSLRA or otherwise.

All forward-looking statements address matters that involve risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in such statements. We believe that these factors include, but are not limited to the following:

- the fact that we have limited operating history;
- the possibility of severe or unanticipated losses from natural and man-made catastrophes, including those that may result from changes in climate conditions, including global temperatures and expected sea levels;
- the effectiveness of our loss limitation methods;
- our dependence on our Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO") and Chief Financial Officer (the "CFO"), both of whom are not our direct employees, and our service providers including Blue Capital Management Ltd. (the "Manager") which provides various underwriting, investment and administrative services;
- our ability to effectively execute our business plan and any new ventures that we may enter into;
- continued acceptance of our business strategy, security and financial condition by regulators, brokers and insureds;
- failure by any service provider to carry out its obligations to us in accordance with the terms of its appointment;
- conflicts of interest that could result from our relationships and potential overlaps in business with related parties, including Sompo International Holdings Ltd. (a wholly owned subsidiary of Sompo Holdings, Inc.) ("Sompo International") and its subsidiaries;
- the cyclical nature of the property catastrophe insurance and reinsurance industry;
- the availability of capital and financing, including our ability to raise more equity capital and our ability to release capital from existing obligations to redeploy annually;
- the levels of new and renewal business achieved;
- the availability of opportunities to increase writings within our property and catastrophe lines of business and our ability to capitalize on those opportunities;
- the inherent uncertainty of our risk management process, which is subject to, among other things, industry loss estimates and estimates generated by modeling techniques;
- the inherent uncertainties in establishing loss and loss adjustment expense ("LAE") reserves and unanticipated adjustments to premium estimates;
- changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance or retrocessional coverage;
- general economic and market conditions, including inflation, volatility in the credit and capital markets and conditions specific to the insurance and reinsurance markets in which we operate;
- changes in and the impact of governmental legislation or regulation, including changes in tax laws in the jurisdictions where we conduct business;
- statutory or regulatory developments, including those involving tax policy, reinsurance and other regulatory matters such as the adoption of proposed legislation that would affect Bermuda-headquartered companies or Bermuda-based insurers or reinsurers;
- potential treatment of us as an investment company or a passive foreign investment company for purposes of U.S. securities laws or U.S. federal taxation, respectively;

- the impact of the United Kingdom's June 2016 referendum on European Union membership and the expected withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union;
- the amount and timing of reinsurance recoveries;
- the effects of competitors' pricing policies, and of changes in laws and regulations on competition, industry consolidation and development of competing financial products;
- the overall level of competition, and the related supply and demand dynamics in our markets relating to growing capital levels in our industry;
- actions by our competitors, many of which are larger or have greater financial resources than we do;
- declining demand due to increased retentions by cedants and other factors;
- acts of terrorism, political unrest, outbreak of war and other hostilities or other non-forecasted and unpredictable events;
- unexpected developments concerning the small number of insurance and reinsurance brokers upon whom we rely for a large portion of revenues;
- the ability of the counterparty institutions with which we conduct business to continue to meet their obligations to us;
- operational risks, including the risk of fraud and any errors and omissions, as well as technology breaches or failures;
- changes in tax regulations or laws applicable to us, our subsidiaries, brokers or customers;
- our dependence as a holding company upon dividends or distributions from our operating subsidiaries; and
- changes in accounting principles or the application of such principles by regulators.

The foregoing review of important factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in this Form 10-K, including the risk factors set forth in Item 1A, "*Risk Factors*." We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the dates on which they are made.

Unless the context suggests otherwise, references in this Annual Report on Form 10-K to the "Company" refer to Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd., and references to "we," "us," "our" or "Blue Capital" refer to Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. and its consolidated subsidiaries. References to "Blue Capital Re" refer to Blue Capital Re Ltd., the Company's wholly-owned reinsurance company, which is licensed as a Class 3A insurer in Bermuda under the Insurance Act 1987, as amended and its related regulations of Bermuda (the "Insurance Act"). References to "Blue Capital Re ILS" refer to Blue Capital Re ILS Ltd., Blue Capital Re's wholly-owned subsidiary. References to "insurer" also include "reinsurer." References to "Sompo International" refer to Sompo International Holdings Ltd. which through its operating subsidiaries focuses on underwriting specialty lines of personal and commercial property and casualty insurance and reinsurance on a global basis. References to "Blue Water Re" refer to Blue Water Re Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International. Blue Water Re is registered in Bermuda under the Insurance Act as a special purpose insurer, which provides collateralized property catastrophe reinsurance coverage and related products. The Manager, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International, is licensed in Bermuda to carry on investment business under the Investment Business Act 2003, as amended (the "Investment Business Act") and as an agent and manager under the Insurance Act. The Manager provides underwriting, investment management, insurance management and other administrative services to the Company.

References in this Annual Report on Form 10-K to "GAAP," refer to accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S.

## PART I

### Item 1. *Business*

#### OVERVIEW

##### The Company

We are a Bermuda exempted limited liability company that, through our subsidiaries, provides collateralized reinsurance in the property catastrophe market and invests in various insurance-linked securities. We were incorporated under the laws of Bermuda on June 24, 2013 and we commenced operations on November 12, 2013. Our headquarters and principal executive offices are located at Waterloo House, 100 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda, which is also our registered office.

Our Common Shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BCRH" and on the Bermuda Stock Exchange under the symbol "BCRH.BH."

Our largest shareholder, Sampo International, is a holding company headquartered in Bermuda which through its operating subsidiaries focuses on underwriting specialty lines of personal and commercial property and casualty insurance and reinsurance on a global basis. Sampo International together with its wholly owned subsidiary, Endurance Specialty Insurance Ltd. ("Endurance Bermuda"), owned 33.2% of the Company's outstanding Common Shares as of December 31, 2018.

Our business strategy is to build and maintain a diversified portfolio of reinsurance risks that are intended to generate underwriting profits, which we intend principally to distribute to our shareholders through the payment of dividends, with returns commensurate with the amount of risk assumed. We seek to provide our shareholders with the opportunity to own an alternative asset class whose returns we believe have historically been largely uncorrelated to those of other asset classes, such as global equities and bonds. Subject to the discretion of our board of directors (the "Board"), we intend to distribute a minimum of 90% of our annual Distributable Income to holders of our Common Shares. "Distributable Income," a non-GAAP measure, means our GAAP net income plus (minus) non-cash expenses (revenues) recorded in our net income for the period. Subject to the discretion of the Board, we intend to make regular quarterly dividend payments for each of the first three quarters of each year, and either repurchase Common Shares or pay a special dividend after the end of the year should funds be available. See "Overview" contained in Item 7 herein.

We operate as a single business segment through our wholly-owned subsidiaries: (i) Blue Capital Re, a Bermuda exempted limited liability company registered as a Class 3A insurer in Bermuda under the Insurance Act, which provides collateralized reinsurance; and (ii) Blue Capital Re ILS, a Bermuda exempted limited liability company which conducts hedging and other investment activities, including entering into industry loss warranties and purchasing catastrophe bonds, in support of Blue Capital Re's operations.

Subsidiaries of Sampo International manage our reinsurance underwriting decisions and provide us with the services of our CEO and CFO. Through this relationship, we leverage Sampo International's reinsurance underwriting expertise and infrastructure to conduct our business.

##### *The Property Reinsurance Market*

Property insurance companies issue insurance policies in exchange for premiums paid by the policyholder. An insurance policy is a contract between the insurance company and the policyholder whereby the insurance company agrees to pay for losses suffered by the policyholder that are covered under that contract. Property insurance typically covers the financial consequences of accidental losses to the policyholder's property due to natural and man-made catastrophes, subject to deductibles and other policy limitations. Casualty insurance mainly protects a person or a business against legal liability for losses caused by injury to other people or the property of others. Many insurance policies will cover both property and casualty risks. However, given the difference in nature between property and casualty risks, the reinsurance markets for these types of risks tend to be separate and distinct. Our reinsurance activities focus predominately on property risks.

Property reinsurance companies assume, from both insurance companies (known as "ceding companies" or "cedants") and other reinsurance companies (known as "retrocedants"), as well as other property insurance capital providers, such as government or state-sponsored catastrophe funds, all or a portion of the property insurance or reinsurance risks that the ceding company or retrocedant has underwritten under one or more insurance or reinsurance policies. In return, the reinsurer receives a premium for the risks assumed from the ceding company or retrocedant. When reinsurance companies purchase reinsurance to cover their own risks assumed from ceding companies, this is known as "retrocessional reinsurance." Reinsurance or

retrocessional reinsurance can benefit a ceding company or retrocedant, as applicable, in various ways, such as by reducing exposure to individual risks and by providing catastrophe protection from larger or multiple losses. Ceding companies and retrocedants can use reinsurance or retrocessional reinsurance to manage their overall risk profile or to create additional underwriting capacity, allowing them to accept larger risks or to write more business than would otherwise be possible, absent an increase in their capital or surplus.

## Our Competitive Strengths

We believe we have the following competitive strengths:

- **Access to a Global Specialty Provider of Property and Casualty Insurance and Reinsurance with an Extensive Infrastructure.** We benefit substantially from the Manager's relationship with Sompo International by accessing and leveraging Sompo International's management talent, proprietary reinsurance modeling tools, underwriting expertise, proprietary risk management systems and longstanding broker/client relationships. The Manager's affiliation with Sompo International enables us to deploy our capital to build a diversified portfolio of reinsurance risks with an attractive risk-adjusted return potential for our shareholders. We also benefit from Sompo International's scale, experience and reputation in pricing reinsurance contracts and achieving key policy terms and conditions, which we believe is a competitive advantage relative to other independent or small reinsurance platforms. We further benefit from Sompo International's existing middle- and back-office support infrastructure.
- **Differentiated Approach to Reinsurance Risk Selection.** The Manager performs our risk selection process, subject to the oversight of the Board, and primarily targets counterparties who can supply us with the full spectrum of information associated with each exposure. Our risk selection process includes using the Manager's specific knowledge of the ceding insurer and underlying risks, including detailed portfolio data, such as home type, location, building code and date of construction. Additionally, the Manager analyzes the historical loss performance of the ceding insurer, its market position, its management's capabilities and its claims mitigation history. The Manager generally acts as a "quoting market" participant, which means that it provides an initial quote to the broker rather than responding to quotes provided by the broker. We believe that this allows the Manager to be more selective in choosing the reinsurance contracts it selects for us and enhances its relationship with brokers. We benefit from the Manager's use of Sompo International's analytics, risk management and actuarial team, which enables the Manager to analyze the granular data collected using proprietary analytical systems on our behalf in order to determine the appropriate pricing for the risks assumed. The Manager uses its and Sompo International's proprietary catastrophe pricing and risk management systems, various third-party models and its underwriting judgment in order to build a high quality portfolio. The Manager also seeks to exploit pricing inefficiencies that may exist in the market from time to time.
- **Access to Reinsurance Products Not Generally Available to Collateralized Reinsurers.** In addition to offering collateralized reinsurance directly to third-party insurance and reinsurance companies, we further benefit from leveraging our relationship with Sompo International in order to gain access to a broader range of reinsurance business than we believe is typically available to most collateralized reinsurers. Through a retrocessional contract (the "BW Retrocessional Agreement"), between Blue Capital Re and Blue Water Re, Blue Water Re has the option to cede to Blue Capital Re up to 100% of its participation in the ceded reinsurance business it writes, provided that such business is in accordance with Blue Capital Re's underwriting guidelines. Pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, we participate in: (i) retrocessional, quota share or other agreements between Blue Water Re and Sompo International or other third-party reinsurers, which provide us with the opportunity to participate in a diversified portfolio of risks on a proportional basis; and (ii) fronting agreements between Blue Water Re and Sompo International or other well capitalized third-party rated reinsurers, which allow us to transact business with counterparties who prefer to enter into contracts with rated reinsurers. These arrangements enhance the depth of opportunities available to us, increase the diversification of our portfolio and provide enhanced risk-adjusted returns compared to most other collateralized reinsurers.
- **Experienced Management Team.** Our CEO and CFO, as well as Sompo International's senior managers responsible for the day-to-day oversight of the Manager, have significant experience in the reinsurance industry, including the supervision of both traditional reinsurance markets and insurance-linked securities. We also benefit from the significant experience of the Manager's Investment and Underwriting Committees.
- **Alignment of Interests Between Our Shareholders and Sompo International.** Sompo International currently owns 33.2% of our outstanding Common Shares. We believe that Sompo International's significant investment in us and our relationship with the Manager aligns Sompo International's interests with those of our shareholders and incentivizes Sompo International to maximize returns, while managing risks, for our shareholders.



## Our Strategy

Our business strategy is to build and maintain a diversified portfolio of reinsurance risks that will generate underwriting profits, which we intend principally to distribute to our shareholders through the payment of dividends, with returns commensurate with the amount of risk assumed. We implement our strategy through our subsidiaries Blue Capital Re and Blue Capital Re ILS. Blue Capital Re provides collateralized reinsurance and enters into industry loss warranties in the form of insurance contracts. Blue Capital Re ILS conducts hedging and other investment activities, including investing in insurance-linked securities, in support of Blue Capital Re's operations.

We aim to maintain a balanced portfolio of predominantly, but not exclusively, natural and man-made catastrophe risks, diversified by peril, geography and attachment point. The Manager selects risks on our behalf, primarily from the global property catastrophe reinsurance market. Our strategy is to build and maintain a flexible and diversified portfolio of reinsurance risk exposures by pursuing a broad range of reinsurance opportunities. We believe that allocations to traditional reinsurance contracts, either fronted or collateralized by trust account or letter of credit, industry loss warranties, catastrophe bonds and other insurance-linked securities enhance our overall risk diversification and offer attractive relative value at different points in time, depending on market conditions. The Manager uses Sompo International's sophisticated risk management techniques to monitor correlation risk, and it seeks to enhance our underwriting returns through careful risk selection using advanced capital allocation methodologies. We also actively seek to write more business in classes that we consider to be favorably priced based on the risk-adjusted return potential and to avoid those classes that we consider to be comparatively unfavorably priced, such as those suffering from intense price competition or poor fundamentals. We believe a balanced portfolio of risks reduces the volatility of returns and optimizes value for our shareholders. From time to time, however, we may choose to be overweight in certain classes, products or geographies based on market opportunities.

### *Quota Share Retrocessional Agreements with Sompo International or Other Third-Party Reinsurers*

Blue Capital Re participates in quota share retrocessional reinsurance agreements with Sompo International pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, or directly with other sophisticated reinsurance or insurance companies (those with either a minimum A.M. Best financial strength rating of "A-" (Excellent) or better (or an equivalent rating with another recognized rating agency)), or insurers and reinsurers that are not rated or do not fall within this threshold on a case-by-case basis. These agreements allow Blue Capital Re to participate in an agreed percentage of the risks and premiums of certain reinsurance contracts on a proportional basis, with exposure capped at the amount of collateral required to support the contract. In exchange, the ceding reinsurer charges Blue Capital Re a commission override, which is a percentage of the premiums on these contracts, to compensate it for sourcing the business and retaining the tail risk (meaning the amount of proportional contractual limits in excess of collateral required) of these reinsurance contracts. The ceding reinsurer is also reimbursed for acquisition costs, including brokerage and federal excise taxes, and may receive a profit commission in the event of favorable loss experience. These arrangements are negotiated on a case-by-case basis, allowing Blue Capital Re to partake either in a portion or the entirety of the reinsurer's portfolio or only in certain classes of reinsurance, as determined by the Manager, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board.

### *Third-Party Reinsurance, Direct with Cedant or via a Fronting Arrangement*

Blue Capital Re also provides reinsurance to third-party insurance and reinsurance companies through reinsurance contracts, either directly with the cedant or on a fronted basis. Blue Capital Re's exposure under these reinsurance contracts is calculated on an ultimate net loss basis, ultimate net loss meaning the actual loss or losses paid out by the cedant or retrocedant and for which the cedant or retrocedant has become liable in respect of insurance policies entered into by the cedant as an insurer or reinsurer. Generally, cedants decide to cede business to a reinsurer based on the quality of a reinsurer's financial strength rating or, if it is unrated, on the demonstrated ability of a reinsurer to cover claims. Blue Capital Re fully collateralizes its reinsurance obligations. The collateral is held in trust for the term of the related contract (or, in the event of a covered loss, until the resolution of any claims under the contract).

As an alternative to the collateralized markets, Blue Capital Re also participates in fronting arrangements, either through the BW Retrocessional Agreement or directly with other well capitalized third-party rated reinsurers that satisfy the Manager's detailed credit review. Under a typical fronting arrangement, a rated insurer issues an insurance policy on behalf of an unrated, often cash-collateralized, reinsurer without the intention of retaining any of the risk. The economic risk remains with the unrated reinsurer via an indemnity/reinsurance agreement but the contractual and credit risk is assumed by the fronting company since it is required to honor obligations under the policy if the unrated reinsurer fails to indemnify the fronting company.

The reason for these fronting arrangements is that, just as some counterparties may prefer fully-collateralized reinsurance, other counterparties may prefer to enter into reinsurance contracts with a rated reinsurer. Alternatively, there may be situations in which the structure of the reinsurance contract would otherwise render direct collateralization uneconomic (for example, if the contract provided for reinstatable limits, which are described below). By entering into a fronting arrangement, Blue Capital Re is able to participate in reinsurance opportunities that would not otherwise be available to us, although Blue Capital Re is still required to provide collateral to the fronting reinsurer.

Under typical fronting agreements, all of the reinsurance risks are retroceded to the reinsurer who, in turn, provides the fronting reinsurer with collateral in an amount equal to or greater than the contractual limit less the premium receivable plus any origination fees owed. A fronting fee, which is a percentage of net premiums written, is deducted from premiums paid to the reinsurer.

Other fronting agreements may include subsequent (or reinstated) contractual limits of coverage following a covered loss event in return for an additional premium. Under these agreements, Blue Capital Re is required to fully collateralize both the original limit and the reinstated limits. Reinstatement generally occurs under two circumstances: (i) automatically and with no additional premium other than the original premium; or (ii) automatically with an additional premium that is agreed upon when the policy is written.

Blue Capital Re may enter into some arrangements whereby the reinstatement premium paid is apportioned on a pre-agreed basis between Blue Capital Re and the fronting reinsurer. This arrangement gives Blue Capital Re access to the reinstatement reinsurance market, a market in which rated reinsurers often participate but one in which unrated reinsurers, such as Blue Capital Re, would otherwise have limited access to.

#### *Blue Water Re Retrocessional Agreements*

Blue Capital Re also provides facultative retrocessional reinsurance to Blue Water Re pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement. The terms of this agreement mirror those of the original insurance policies. See "*Conflicts of Interest*" for information about the affiliation between Sompo International and us.

Blue Water Re is Sompo International's market-facing collateralized reinsurer, and it focuses on providing reinsurance protection to primary insurance companies globally. Blue Water Re underwrites and enters into collateralized reinsurance contracts with Sompo International and other third-party insurance companies, which transfer all or a portion of the risks and the premiums under these third-party insurance companies' contracts to Blue Water Re. All or a portion of these risks and premiums are then allocated to Blue Capital Re by way of the BW Retrocessional Agreement. Under this agreement, Blue Capital Re accepts risks from Blue Water Re in exchange for the corresponding premiums relating to the accepted risks.

#### *Industry Loss Warranties*

Blue Capital Re or Blue Capital Re ILS may buy and sell industry loss warranties as a way to access certain risks. An industry loss warranty is a financial instrument designed to protect insurers or reinsurers from severe losses due to natural and man-made catastrophes and can take the form of either an insurance contract or a swap agreement. Under both forms, a premium is paid at the inception of the contract and, in return, a payout is made if a catastrophic event causes loss to the insurance industry in excess of a predetermined trigger amount. Industry loss warranties may also be triggered by other parametric measurements defined in the contract such as observed wind speeds, measured seismic activity or other factors. Industry loss warranties in the form of an insurance contract (also referred to as the "indemnity form") are typically dual-trigger instruments and, in addition to requiring a loss to the industry, require that the buyer of the protection actually suffer a loss from the triggering event. Blue Capital Re may buy and sell industry loss warranties in the form of an insurance contract, and Blue Capital Re ILS may buy and sell industry loss warranties in the form of a derivative contract.

#### *Catastrophe Bonds*

Blue Capital Re ILS may purchase catastrophe bonds to access certain risks. A catastrophe bond provides reinsurance protection in the event of a catastrophic event. The issuer pays the bondholder interest and repays the principal at maturity, but if a specified trigger condition, such as indemnity, industry or parametric index or modeled loss, are met, then the issuer is no longer required to pay interest or repay some or all of the principal. Blue Capital Re ILS may choose to buy, sell or, given sufficient scale to do so, issue catastrophe bonds.

### *Other*

While our current focus is to provide reinsurance against natural property catastrophe risks, our strategy may evolve to the extent that man-made or other risks (e.g., terrorism reinsurance, workers compensation catastrophe reinsurance, casualty reinsurance) offer more attractive expected risk-adjusted returns or diversification benefits. Blue Capital Re ILS' portfolio may include over-the-counter or exchange-traded futures or options listed on catastrophe indexes, such as catastrophe or weather derivatives.

### *Financing, Hedging and Other Investment Activities*

We may incur debt, through our existing unsecured credit facility (the "2016 Credit Facility") or otherwise, in order to, among other things: provide working capital; write new business; enter into other reinsurance opportunities; manage our capital requirements; respond to, or comply with, changes in capital requirements, if any, that the Bermuda Monetary Authority (the "BMA") or other regulatory bodies use to evaluate us; acquire new businesses; or invest in existing businesses. In the event that we borrow for any of these purposes or other purposes, we intend to limit our aggregate borrowing to an amount no greater than 50% of our shareholders' equity at the time of the borrowing. However, subject to the approval of the Board, we may borrow an amount in excess of 50% of our shareholders' equity at the time of the borrowing.

We may, from time to time, for the purposes of portfolio optimization or to hedge certain risks in the portfolio, enter into retrocessional contracts, invest in insurance-linked securities, enter into derivative contracts or issue catastrophe bonds. All hedging contracts and investments that we enter into are governed by our underwriting guidelines and are approved by the Manager's Investment and/or Underwriting Committee.

### **Our Underwriting Guidelines**

The Manager has broad discretion to execute our underwriting strategy, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board.

Our underwriting guidelines apply in respect of any new underwriting decision at the time of such decision, using the information available to the Manager at that time. This includes information on the existing portfolio contract limits and modeled loss exposures by zone, as well as estimations of the potential impact on portfolio limits and modeled loss exposures from unquantified external factors. These factors include industry loss events that have the potential to cause loss to our portfolio and changes in methodology for calculating modeled losses. Based on the information available to the Manager at the time, if a new opportunity being considered would cause a restriction to be breached, or if a restriction relevant to that new opportunity is already in breach, then that new opportunity will not be allocated to us. The existence of restriction breaches does not preclude us from entering into any new opportunity; it only restricts us from entering into new opportunities that would result in a new breach or exacerbate existing breaches of restrictions.

Our underwriting guidelines are summarized below, but the Board may change our underwriting guidelines or our strategy at any time without a vote or approval of our shareholders.

### *Class of Reinsurance*

Our underwriting guidelines establish maximum and minimum thresholds for the amount of each class of reinsurance, as follows (each expressed as a percentage of our shareholders' equity):

- 0% to 100% in indemnity reinsurance;
- 0% to 50% in indemnity retrocession;
- 0% to 100% in quota share retrocessional agreements;
- 0% to 50% in industry loss warranties;
- 0% to 20% in catastrophe bonds; and
- 0% to 20% in other non-property catastrophe risks.

We typically deploy at least 50% of our portfolio in indemnity reinsurance, indemnity retrocession and quota share retrocessional agreements. Taking into account our underwriting guidelines and the targeted allocation described above, we expect that the majority of our portfolio will be allocated to traditional indemnity reinsurance (including quota share retrocessional agreements).

### *Geographic Diversity*

We pursue a geographically diversified reinsurance strategy with an emphasis on the 14 individual zones set out below. We seek to maintain a projected net exposure from any one catastrophe loss event in any individual zone at or below 50% of our shareholders' equity.

<i>North America</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>Rest of World</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· U.S. Northeast</li><li>· U.S. Southeast</li><li>· U.S. Florida</li><li>· U.S. Gulf</li><li>· U.S. New Madrid</li><li>· U.S. Midwest</li><li>· U.S. California</li><li>· U.S. Hawaii</li><li>· Canada</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Europe</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Australia</li><li>· New Zealand</li><li>· Japan</li><li>· South America</li></ul>

Examples of individual zones include: U.S. Florida Windstorm (1st event), U.S. Florida Windstorm (2nd event), European Windstorm (1st event), European Windstorm (2nd event), U.S. California Earthquake (1st event), Japan Earthquake (1st event) and U.S. Midwest Aggregate. The Company to the best of its knowledge has not made and does not have current plans to have any contacts with any governments or entities targeted by U.S. sanctions including those applicable to Sudan, Syria and Iran.

### *Other Limitations*

We seek to maintain a projected net impact from any one catastrophe loss event at the 1 in 100 year return period for any one zone at or below 35% of our shareholders' equity. A 100 year return period can also be referred to as the 1.0% occurrence exceedance probability, meaning there is an estimated 1.0% chance in any given year that this level will be exceeded. We seek to maintain a projected net impact from any one earthquake loss event at the 1 in 250 year return period for any zone at or below 35% of our shareholders' equity. A 250 year return period can also be referred to as the 0.4% occurrence exceedance probability, meaning there is an estimated 0.4% chance in any given year that this level will be exceeded. For these risks, the projected net impact will be determined by the Manager using various systems, including Sampo International's proprietary systems and data.

We may also: (i) purchase retrocessional or industry loss warranty protection to mitigate the impact of large catastrophe events on our portfolio or to optimize the expected return of our portfolio; and (ii) enter into foreign exchange derivative contracts to hedge our exposure to non-U.S. dollar currencies.

### **Our Reinsurance Risk Selection and Underwriting Process**

We employ a granular approach to risk selection and portfolio construction. We target reinsurance counterparties through which we can access the full spectrum of information associated with each reinsurance loss exposure. In a majority of the reinsurance transactions that we enter into, we are a "quoting reinsurer," meaning that we provide an initial quote to the broker rather than responding to quotes provided by the broker. By contrast, we believe some other reinsurance providers act as price followers and only access exposure at an industry loss level and, accordingly, cannot evaluate specific information related to individual elements of underlying risk or control the underwriting process. We believe this holistic approach enables us to build and maintain a portfolio of reinsurance contracts with attractive risk-adjusted returns.

The Manager, on our behalf and subject to the oversight of the Board, employs selective underwriting criteria in the contracts it chooses to underwrite and spends a significant amount of time with our cedants and brokers to understand the risks and appropriately structure the contracts. As part of our pricing and underwriting process, the Manager assesses, among other factors:

- the client's and industry historical loss data and current market conditions;
- the business purpose served by a proposed contract;
- the client's pricing and underwriting strategies;
- the client's claims management and mitigation practices;
- the expected duration for claims to fully develop;
- the geographic areas in which the client is doing business and its market share;
- the reputation and financial strength of the client;
- the reputation and expertise of the broker;
- proposed contract terms and conditions; and
- reports provided by third party industry specialists.

## **Our Structure**

We conduct our business through our wholly-owned subsidiaries Blue Capital Re and Blue Capital Re ILS.

We conduct our reinsurance business through Blue Capital Re. As a result of the approvals received from the BMA and the terms of our approved business plan, Blue Capital Re may only enter into reinsurance contracts that are fully-collateralized at 100% of the aggregate limit at the inception of each reinsurance contract. Blue Capital Re is therefore subject to less stringent regulatory oversight than Class 4 insurers and has more modest capital and surplus requirements. Blue Capital Re is not a rated entity, and we do not intend to obtain financial strength ratings for Blue Capital Re from any rating agency. In the future, we may choose not to write reinsurance solely on a fully-collateralized basis, in which case we may obtain financial strength ratings for Blue Capital Re and will make the relevant applications to the BMA either to: (i) change our business plan; (ii) register Blue Capital Re as another class of reinsurer (if necessary); or (iii) remove any waivers that have been granted on the basis of writing fully-collateralized reinsurance contracts.

We conduct certain hedging and other investment activities through Blue Capital Re ILS, including investing in insurance-linked securities.

## **The Manager**

We rely on the Manager, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International, for services that are essential to the operation of our business. The Manager manages our assets and makes all of our underwriting and investment decisions, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board.

The Manager also manages other accounts with areas of focus that overlap with our strategy, and expects to continue to do so in the future. The Manager is not restricted in any way from sponsoring or accepting business or capital from new clients, insurance or reinsurance companies, funds or other accounts, including businesses that are similar to, or that overlap with, our business. Therefore, the Manager's time and attention may be divided between us and other businesses.

### *Investment Management Agreement*

The Company has entered into an investment management agreement with the Manager (the "Investment Management Agreement"). Pursuant to the terms of the Investment Management Agreement, the Manager has full discretionary authority, including the delegation of the provision of its services, to manage our assets, subject to our underwriting guidelines, the terms of the Investment Management Agreement and the oversight of the Board.

*Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement*

The Company, Blue Capital Re and the Manager have entered into an underwriting and insurance management agreement (the "Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement"). Pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, the Manager provides underwriting, risk management, claims management, ceded retrocession agreements management and actuarial and reinsurance accounting services to Blue Capital Re. The Manager has full discretionary authority to manage the underwriting decisions of Blue Capital Re, subject to our underwriting guidelines, the terms of the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the oversight of the Board and of the board of directors of Blue Capital Re.

*Administrative Services Agreement*

The Company has entered into an administrative services agreement (the "Administrative Services Agreement") with the Manager. Pursuant to the terms of the Administrative Services Agreement, the Manager provides us with support services, including the services of our CFO, as well as finance and accounting, internal audit, claims management, policy wording, modeling software licenses, office space, information technology, human resources and administrative support. The Manager has the right to sub-contract the provision of these services (other than the services of our CFO) to a third-party.

Neither our CEO nor CFO receives any compensation directly from us for their services. Rather, the services provided by our CEO are deemed to be encompassed within the management fee we are charged by the Manager under the Investment Management Agreement and the services provided by our CFO are directly charged to us by the Manager under the Administrative Services Agreement.

The following table summarizes the fees payable to the Manager pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the Administrative Services Agreement and certain other terms of these agreements:

**Summary Description**

Management Fee	The Manager is entitled to a management fee (the "Management Fee") of 1.5% of our average total shareholders' equity per annum, calculated and payable in arrears in cash each quarter (or part thereof) that the Investment Management Agreement is in effect. For purposes of calculating the Management Fee, our total shareholders' equity means: (1) the net proceeds from all issuances of our equity securities since inception (allocated on a pro rata daily basis for such issuances during the quarter of any such issuance), plus (2) our retained earnings as of the end of the most recently completed quarter (without taking into account any non-cash compensation expense incurred in current or prior periods), minus (3) any amount that we may have paid to repurchase our Common Shares on a cumulative basis since inception. It also excludes (x) any unrealized gains and losses and other non-cash items that have impacted shareholders' equity as reported in our financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP, other than unrealized gains and losses and other non-cash items relating to insurance-linked securities, and (y) one-time events pursuant to changes in GAAP after discussions between the Manager and our independent directors and approval by both a majority of our independent directors and the Manager for all such adjustments. As a result, our shareholders' equity, for purposes of calculating the Management Fee, could be greater or less than the amount of shareholders' equity shown on our financial statements.
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Performance Fee	The Manager is entitled to a performance fee (the "Performance Fee") calculated and payable in arrears in cash each quarter (or part thereof) that the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement is in effect in an amount, not less than zero, equal to the product of (1) 20% and (2) the difference between (A) our pre-tax, pre-Performance Fee Distributable Income for the then current quarter and (B) a hurdle amount calculated as the product of (i) the weighted average of the issue price per Common Share pursuant to each of our public or private offerings of Common Shares since our inception multiplied by the weighted average number of all Common Shares outstanding (including any restricted share units, any restricted Common Shares and other Common Shares underlying awards granted under our equity incentive plans), as further reduced by the amount, if any, by which our inception-to-date dividends to shareholders exceeds our inception-to-date GAAP net income, and (ii) 2% (equivalent to an 8% annualized hurdle rate); provided, however, that the foregoing Performance Fee is subject to a rolling three-year high water mark.
Term	We generally may not terminate the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement or the Administrative Services Agreement until November 5, 2021, whether or not the Manager's performance results are satisfactory. Each of these agreements renews automatically on November 5, 2021, and every three years thereafter, unless terminated in accordance with its terms. During the term of these agreements, we may not enter into any other investment management, underwriting and insurance management or services agreement.
Termination Fee	Upon any termination or non-renewal of either of the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement (other than for a material breach by, or the insolvency of, the Manager), we will pay a one-time termination fee to the Manager equal to 5% of our GAAP shareholders' equity, calculated as of the most recently completed quarter prior to the date of termination.
Expense Reimbursement	Under the terms of the Investment Management Agreement and the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, we reimburse the Manager for various fees, expenses and other costs in connection with the services provided under the terms of these agreements. The only fees payable under the terms of the Administrative Services Agreement are to reimburse the Manager for various fees, expenses and other costs in connection with the services provided under the terms of that agreement, including the services of our CFO, modeling software licenses and finance, legal and administrative support.

### Capital Management Policy

The Company has in the past and intends to continue to distribute a minimum of 90% of its annual Distributable Income to shareholders and to make such distributions through regular quarterly dividend payments for each of the first three quarters of each year, and either repurchase Common Shares or pay a special dividend after the end of the year should funds be available. Although the Company's year-end net income (if any) will vary from year-to-year, the Company expects that in most years the sum of its regular quarterly dividend payments will be less than 90% of its annual Distributable Income. If this is the case, the Company intends to commence a Common Share repurchase program or declare a special dividend in the following year to distribute an amount that, taken together with the prior year's regular quarterly dividends, will be at least 90% of its Distributable Income for the prior calendar year. The declaration and payment of a special dividend or commencement of a Common Share repurchase program, if any, may not occur until a significant period of time after the completion of the Company's calendar year. The commencement of a Common Share repurchase program for a portion of Distributable Income may be elected by the Board thereby reducing or eliminating a special dividend. See *"Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Overview"* contained in Item 7 herein.

The declaration of regular quarterly and special dividends, if any, and, if declared, the amount of any such dividend, as well as the amount of any Common Share repurchases, will be subject to the discretion of the Board and to the consideration of various additional risks and uncertainties, including those discussed under the headings *"Risk Factors"* and *"Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations"* and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Any future determination to pay dividends or repurchase Common Shares will remain at the discretion of the Board and will be dependent upon many factors, including: (i) the Company's financial condition, liquidity, results of operations (including its ability to generate cash flow in excess of its expenses) and capital requirements; (ii) general business conditions; (iii) legal, tax and regulatory limitations; (iv) contractual prohibitions and other restrictions; (v) current trading price of Common Shares as compared with the fully converted book value per Common Share; and (vi) any other factors that the Board deems relevant. The Company generally expects that its dividends will be subject to customary dividend tax treatment in the U.S., but if its total dividends paid during any given year exceed its current and accumulated earnings and profits as of the end of such year (determined under U.S. tax principles), a portion of its dividends paid in that year will be treated: (i) first, as a nontaxable

return of capital, to the extent of a shareholder's tax basis in Common Shares (on a dollar-for-dollar basis); and (ii) subsequently, as capital gain.

The Company has no substantial operations of its own and relies primarily on cash dividends or distributions from its subsidiaries to pay its operating expenses, amounts owed under the 2016 Credit Facility and dividends to its shareholders. Furthermore, Blue Capital Re, the Company's wholly-owned reinsurance subsidiary, is regulated as a Class 3A insurer under the Insurance Act by the BMA, and its ability to pay dividends to the Company is limited under Bermuda law and regulations. See "*Regulation and Capital Requirements*" for more information.

In addition, under the Bermuda Companies Act 1981, as amended (the "Companies Act"), none of the Company, Blue Capital Re or Blue Capital Re ILS is permitted to declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus, if it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or if the realizable value of its assets would be less than its liabilities. See "*Regulation and Capital Requirements*" for more information.

The Company's ability to pay dividends to its shareholders or repurchase Common Shares will depend upon its performance, which depends in turn upon the performance of its subsidiaries. We expect that dividends will be paid in cash to the extent that cash is available for distribution. However, the Company may not be able to generate sufficient cash to pay dividends to its shareholders or repurchase Common Shares. In addition, the Board may change the Company's capital management policy in the future.

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, the Company expects to make distributions by way of dividends from its retained earnings or from its contributed surplus or otherwise in accordance with the Companies Act and its bye-laws to the extent that the Board considers this to be appropriate.

The 2016 Credit Facility contains certain covenants that could prohibit or otherwise restrict the Company's ability to pay dividends to its shareholders or repurchase Common Shares or its subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends to their parent. We may enter into additional contracts or financing arrangements that prohibit or otherwise restrict the Company's ability or the ability of its subsidiaries to pay dividends in the future or the Company's ability to repurchase Common Shares.

## **GROSS PREMIUMS WRITTEN**

During the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, we wrote \$33.2 million and \$46.1 million of gross reinsurance premiums, respectively.

### **Gross Premiums Written By Broker**

We market our reinsurance policies worldwide primarily through insurance and reinsurance brokers. The majority of our gross premiums written are sourced by the Manager through a limited number of brokers. The broker is not a party to the reinsurance contract.

We and the Manager seek to build long-term relationships with brokers by providing: (i) prompt and responsive service on underwriting submissions; (ii) innovative and customized reinsurance solutions to their clients; and (iii) timely payment of claims. Brokers receive compensation, typically in the form of a commission, based on negotiated percentages of the premium they produce and the performance of other necessary services. Brokerage costs constitute a significant portion of our reinsurance acquisition costs.



The following table sets forth a breakdown of our gross reinsurance premiums written by broker for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended		Year Ended	
	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
Aon Benfield	\$ 6.9	21%	\$ 16.1	35%
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	11.6	35%	11.9	26%
Willis Towers Watson	8.7	26%	10.8	23%
All other brokers	6.0	18%	6.0	13%
Gross premiums written through brokers	33.2	100%	44.8	97%
Gross premiums not written through brokers	—	—%	1.3	3%
Total gross premiums written	\$ 33.2	100%	\$ 46.1	100%

During 2018, the majority of our reinsurance premiums written included in the table above were derived from a quota share retrocessional reinsurance agreement with Sompo International pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement. As illustrated, the majority of our reinsurance premiums written are sourced through a limited number of brokers, with Aon Benfield, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and Willis Towers Watson providing a total of 82% of our gross reinsurance premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2018. We are therefore highly dependent on these brokers and a loss of all or a substantial portion of the business provided by one or more of these brokers either to Sompo International or directly to us could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. See "Risk Factors" contained in Item 1A herein.

### Gross Premiums Written By Geographic Area of Risks Insured

We seek to diversify our exposure across geographic zones around the world in order to obtain a prudent spread of risk. The spread of these exposures is also a function of market conditions and opportunities.

The following table sets forth a breakdown of gross reinsurance premiums written by geographic area of risks insured for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended		Year Ended	
	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
Worldwide <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 28.9	87%	\$ 36.3	78%
USA:				
Nationwide	0.8	2%	2.1	4%
Florida	1.9	6%	4.9	10%
Gulf region	0.5	1%	0.7	2%
California	—	—%	0.3	1%
Midwest region and other	0.5	2%	0.3	1%
Northeast	—	—%	0.3	1%
Mid-Atlantic region	—	—%	0.3	1%
Worldwide, excluding U.S. <sup>(2)</sup>	0.6	2%	0.9	2%
Total gross premiums written	\$ 33.2	100%	\$ 46.1	100%

(1) "Worldwide" comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area and do not specifically exclude the U.S.

(2) "Worldwide, excluding U.S." comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area but specifically exclude the U.S.

### CLAIMS MANAGEMENT

Claims are managed by the Manager pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the Administrative Services Agreement. The Manager has access to Sompo International's experienced, technical claims teams working closely with each of our operating subsidiaries. The Manager reviews and responds to initial loss reports, administers claims databases, identifies and handles coverage issues, determines whether further investigation is required and where appropriate, retains outside claims counsel, establishes case reserves and approves claims for payment. In addition, the

Manager may conduct audits of our significant clients throughout the year, evaluating claims handling abilities, reserve philosophies, loss notification processes and the overall quality of our clients' performance.

Upon receipt, claims notices are recorded by the Manager within our underwriting, financial and claims systems. When we are notified of insured losses or discover potential losses as part of our claims audits, the Manager records a case reserve as appropriate for the estimated amount of the exposure at that time. The estimate reflects the judgment of the Manager based on general reserving practices, the experience and knowledge of the Manager regarding the nature of the specific claim and, where appropriate, advice of outside counsel. Reserves are also established to provide for the estimated expense of settling claims, including legal and other fees and the general expenses of administering the claims adjustment process.

## **RESERVE FOR LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES**

We are required by applicable laws and regulations and GAAP to establish reserves for losses and LAE that arise from our business. These reserves are balance sheet liabilities representing estimates of future amounts required to pay losses and LAE for insured or reinsured claims that have been incurred at or before the balance sheet date, whether already known to us or not yet reported. It is our policy to establish these losses and LAE reserves after evaluating all information known to us as of the valuation date. Actuarial services are provided to us by the Manager pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.

The Manager uses statistical and actuarial methods to make a reasonable estimate of ultimate expected losses and LAE. The period of time from the reporting of a loss to us and the settlement of our liability may be several years. During this period, additional facts and trends may be revealed. As these factors become apparent, estimated reserves will be adjusted, sometimes requiring an increase or decrease in our overall reserves, and at other times requiring a reallocation of incurred but not reported reserves to specific case reserves.

Reserves for losses and LAE are based in part upon the estimation of losses resulting from catastrophic events. Estimation of losses from catastrophic events is inherently difficult because of the infrequency and severity of large catastrophes. Therefore, we utilize commercially available models, historical reinsurance industry property catastrophe claims experience and other data and estimates provided by our clients to supplement our own historical claims experience for purposes of evaluating future trends and providing an estimate of ultimate claims costs on large catastrophes.

To assist us in establishing appropriate reserves for losses and LAE, we analyze a significant amount of insurance industry information with respect to the pricing environment, loss trends, and loss settlement patterns. In combination with our individual pricing analyses, this industry information is used to guide our loss and LAE estimates. These estimates are reviewed regularly, and adjustments, if any, are recorded in earnings in the periods in which they are determined. While management believes it has made a reasonable estimate of ultimate losses, there can be no assurance that our future losses and LAE will not exceed our current total reserves. For a description of the Company's current reserves, please refer to Item 7, "*Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Loss and LAE Reserves*" and Note 2, "*Loss and LAE Reserve Movements*" in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

## **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There may be conflicts of interest that arise out of our relationship with Sompo International and the Manager. Our Chairman and CEO and our CFO are also employees of Sompo International and the Manager is wholly-owned by Sompo International. As a result, our officers, two of our directors and the Manager may have conflicts between their duties to us and their duties to, and interests in, Sompo International or other parties.

As part of our business model and strategy, we rely on affiliates of Sompo International for access to certain segments of the reinsurance market. In particular, pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, we may participate in: (i) retrocessional, quota share or other agreements in which Sompo International or its affiliates have an interest; and (ii) fronting arrangements with Sompo International. Although these transactions may present conflicts of interest, we nonetheless continue to pursue and consummate these transactions.

Our business overlaps with portions of Sompo International's business. The Manager, in addition to managing some of Sompo International's accounts, manages other accounts that may compete with us, including other accounts affiliated with Sompo International. The Manager makes available to us opportunities to enter into reinsurance contracts and insurance-linked securities and makes investments that it determines are appropriate for us in accordance with its allocation policies and our underwriting guidelines. The Manager is not required to allocate any or all such opportunities to us. We expect that the

Manager will primarily allocate any overlapping opportunities on a proportional basis among the various accounts that they manage.

### **Service Agreements with Sompo International**

We rely on the Manager for services that are essential to the operation of our business. The Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International. As of December 31, 2018 Sompo International owned 33.2% of our outstanding Common Shares and had two representatives on our Board which consists of five directors.

The Manager manages our assets and makes all of our underwriting and investment decisions, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board.

The Manager is not restricted in any way from sponsoring or accepting business or capital from new clients, insurance companies, funds or other accounts, including businesses that are similar to, or that overlap with, our business. Therefore, the Manager's time and attention may be divided between us and other businesses.

See "*The Manager*" for detailed information concerning each of our service agreements with Sompo International.

### **COMPETITION**

We compete with a variety of operators, including: (i) major global reinsurance companies, many of which have extensive experience in reinsurance and have greater financial, marketing and management resources than we do; (ii) other Bermuda-based reinsurers that write reinsurance and that target the same markets and utilize similar business strategies as we do, many of which have more capital than we do; and (iii) capital markets participants such as investment banks and investment funds that access business in securitized form, including through the issuance of insurance-linked securities, or through special purpose vehicles, derivative transactions or other instruments.

Competition in the insurance and reinsurance industry has increased over the past several years and may increase further, either as a result of capital provided by new entrants or of the commitment of additional capital by existing insurers or reinsurers. In addition, alternative products, such as the collateralized reinsurance contracts that we and others write and the insurance-linked securities that we and others may invest in, may also provide increased market capacity. Continued increases in the supply of property reinsurance may have adverse consequences for us and for the property catastrophe industry generally, including fewer contracts written, lower premium rates, increased expenses for customer acquisition and retention and less favorable policy terms and conditions.

We consider our primary competitors to include: Aeolus Capital Management, Markel CatCo Investment Management, Credit Suisse Asset Management, Leadenhall Capital, Lloyd's of London, Nephila Capital Ltd., Pillar Capital, RenaissanceRe Holdings Ltd., Validus Reinsurance, Ltd., Everest Re Group Ltd., Hiscox Ltd. and any property catastrophe reinsurance sidecars or other similar vehicles managed or sponsored by them.

### **REGULATION AND CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **General**

The business of insurance and reinsurance is regulated in most countries, although the degree and type of regulation varies significantly from one jurisdiction to another. Reinsurers are generally subject to less direct regulation than primary insurers. Blue Capital Re is regulated by the BMA.

#### **Bermuda Regulation**

The Insurance Act provides that no person may carry on an insurance business in or from within Bermuda unless registered as an insurer under the Insurance Act by the BMA. In deciding whether to grant registration, the BMA has broad discretion to act as it thinks fit in the public interest. The BMA is required by the Insurance Act to determine whether the applicant is a fit and proper body to be engaged in the insurance business and, in particular, whether it has, or has available to it, adequate knowledge and expertise. The registration of an applicant as an insurer is subject to the insurer complying with the terms of its registration and such other conditions as the BMA may impose at any time. The Insurance Act also grants to the BMA powers to supervise, investigate and intervene in the affairs of insurance companies.

The BMA has enacted various legislative and regulatory amendments to the Insurance Act to aid in Bermuda's achievement of regulatory equivalence with that of the European Commission's Solvency II framework in relation to commercial insurance entities. Bermuda was awarded full equivalence for commercial insurers under Europe's Solvency II regime applicable to insurance companies, which regime came into effect on January 1, 2016. The Insurance Act now : (i) requires certain classes of insurers (including the Company) to maintain their head offices in Bermuda; (ii) requires insurers to notify the BMA, in addition to any increase, of any reduction or disposal of shares taking a shareholder controller below 10%, 20%, 33% or 50%; (iii) permits certain classes of insurers to submit condensed audited GAAP financial statements; and (iv) establishes the minimum criteria of matters of material significance whereby the approved auditor is required to provide written notice to the BMA of those matters that would impact the BMA's discharge of its functions under the Insurance Act. The Insurance Returns and Solvency Regulations 1980 also now include the items and the content of the documents to be submitted as part of the required statutory financial returns for insurers carrying on special purpose business. The Insurance Act requires insurers and insurance groups to meet regulatory capital and reporting requirements on a statutory economic capital and surplus basis. All insurers are also required to implement corporate governance policies and processes as the BMA considers appropriate given the nature, size, complexity and risk profile of the insurer and all insurers, on an annual basis, are now required to deliver a declaration to the BMA confirming whether or not they meet the minimum criteria for registration. All Class 4, Class 3B and Class 3A insurers are required to produce and publish a Financial Condition Report on their website, or provide a copy to the public on request if they do not have a website, as part of its annual Bermuda Capital and Solvency Requirement. The Financial Condition Report provides particulars on the business performance, governance structure, risk profile, solvency valuation, and capital management of the insurer.

In January 2019, the BMA implemented a requirement for an alternative capital schedule to be filed for December 31, 2017 year-end filings and onwards. The Company will be required to complete and file with the BMA this schedule with respect to any of its alternative capital structures. The BMA has confirmed that alternative capital is where insurers conduct business that is financed by a mechanism other than shareholders' capital of the (re)insurance company. This may take various forms such as catastrophe (cat) bonds, industry loss warranties, sidecars, collateralized reinsurers, longevity and mortality bond/swaps, hybrid securities such as preference shares, swaps, and contingent capital such as letters of credit, among others. The filings are confidential, but the BMA may produce valuable aggregate statistics for publication from the information provided in the filings.

The Bermuda Insurance Code of Conduct (the "Bermuda Insurance Code"), which is a codification of best practices for insurers provided by the BMA, was also amended in 2015 and all insurers had to be in compliance by December 31, 2015. Substantive revisions to the Bermuda Insurance Code included a new requirement for the board of an insurer to ensure that its insurance manager is both fit and able to carry out its duties to ensure that the insurer operates in a prudent manner and a clarification that only limited purpose insurers will be allowed to outsource the CEO and senior executive roles to an insurance manager.

#### **Insurance Manager Code of Conduct**

In 2016, the BMA implemented the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct, which establishes duties, requirements and compliance standards to be adhered to by all insurance managers registered under the Bermuda Insurance Act, including the procedure and sound principles to be observed by insurance managers. Insurance managers were required to implement the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct into their operations by December 31, 2016. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct will be taken into account by the BMA in assessing whether the insurance manager has satisfied its requirement under the minimum criteria for registration to conduct its business in a prudent manner.

However, the BMA takes a proportionate approach to compliance, taking into consideration the nature, scale and complexity of an insurance managers' business. The Manager is subject to the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct and is required to file annually prior to June 30 an annual return including management financial statements for the previous financial year and a business plan for the upcoming financial year, and a statutory declaration confirming its compliance with the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct.

The BMA utilizes a risk-based approach when it comes to licensing and supervising insurance and reinsurance companies. As part of the BMA's risk-based system, an assessment of the inherent risks within each particular class of insurer or reinsurer is used to determine the limitations and specific requirements that may be imposed. Thereafter the BMA keeps its analysis of relative risk within individual institutions under review on an ongoing basis, including through the scrutiny of audited financial statements, and, as appropriate, meeting with senior management during onsite visits.

## Regulation of Brokers and Agents

In addition to being registered as an insurance manager under the Insurance Act, the Manager is registered as an agent under the Insurance Act. Insurance brokers and insurance agents have historically been lightly regulated in Bermuda. However, in line with international standards in this space, the BMA has implemented more rigorous regulation. The Insurance Act has been amended to extend certain provisions to regulated insurance brokers and agents. These changes are effective of as December 31, 2018 and include that: (i) the BMA may make rules prescribing prudential standards in relation to insurance brokers and agents (which will include an annual report) and apply penalties for failure to file statutory returns; (ii) brokers and agents are required to maintain lists of insurers for which they act, (iii) brokers and agents are required to notify the BMA within 14 days of any change of shareholder controller or officer; and (iv) brokers and agents are required to have sufficient indemnity insurance cover. The BMA has provided a template annual reporting form and a draft Code of Conduct for insurance brokers and agents which establishes the duties, requirements and standards to be complied with by all insurance brokers and agents registered under Section 10 of the Insurance Act, including the procedures and sound principles to be observed by such persons.

The BMA has also indicated that insurance brokers and agents will annually be required to file: (i) a return accompanied by a copy of the insurance broker or agent's management accounts for the financial year and business plan for the next financial year; and (ii) a declaration signed by two directors (one of whom may be the chief executive officer) of the insurance broker or agent confirming that to the best of their knowledge and belief the information in the annual return is fair and accurate. Insurance brokers and agents, including the Manager, will be expected to comply with the Code of Conduct by June 30, 2019.

## Regulatory Framework

The Insurance Act imposes solvency and liquidity standards on Bermuda insurance companies, as well as auditing and reporting requirements. Certain significant aspects of the Bermuda insurance regulatory framework are set forth below.

Classification of Insurers. The Insurance Act distinguishes between insurers (which term includes reinsurers) carrying on long-term business, general business (being everything except life, annuity and certain types of accident and health insurance) and special purpose business. There are six main general business classifications for insurers ranging from Class 1 (pure captives) to Class 4 (very large commercial underwriters), with Class 4 insurers being subject to the strictest regulation. There is only one classification of special purpose insurer, although special purpose insurers have been categorized effective as of December 31, 2018 into unrestricted special business insurers and restricted special purpose insurers. Insurers carrying on "restricted special purpose" business may only conduct special purpose business with specific insureds approved by the BMA. Insurers carrying on "unrestricted special purpose" can conduct special purpose business with any insureds. The Insurance Act also provides for other additional categories of insurers with limited licenses to encourage innovation in the insurance industry. These include Class IGB insurers, meaning insurers carrying on general business in an innovative or experimental manner, and Class ILT insurers, meaning insurers carrying on long-term business in an innovative or experimental manner.

An entity such as Blue Capital Re is registrable as a Class 3A insurer when: (i) it intends to carry on general insurance business in circumstances where (a) 50% or more of the net premiums written or (b) 50% or more of the loss and loss expense provisions, represent unrelated business; and (ii) its total net premiums written from unrelated business are less than \$50.0 million. Class 3A insurers are required to maintain fully paid-up share capital of \$120,000.

The total annual net premiums from unrelated business written by Blue Capital Re may, in the future, exceed \$50.0 million, the maximum amount of total net premiums currently permitted by a Class 3A insurer. However, Blue Capital Re has obtained a waiver from the BMA so that it may remain a Class 3A insurer at all times, even if it writes more than \$50.0 million in total annual net premiums from unrelated business.

Principal Representative, Head and Principal Office. Every registered insurer or reinsurer is required to maintain a principal office in Bermuda and to appoint and maintain a principal representative in Bermuda, subject to certain prescribed requirements under the Insurance Act. Further, any registered insurer that is a Class 3A insurer or above is required to maintain a head office in Bermuda and direct and manage its insurance business from Bermuda. The 2015 amendments to the Insurance Act provided that in considering whether an insurer satisfies the requirements of having its head office in Bermuda, the BMA may consider (i) where the underwriting, risk management and operational decision making occurs; (ii) whether the presence of senior executives who are responsible for, and involved in, the decision making are located in Bermuda; and (iii) where meetings of the board of directors occur. The BMA will also consider (i) the location where management meets to effect policy decisions; (ii) the residence of the officers, insurance managers or employees; and (iii) the residence of one or more directors in Bermuda. Additionally, the BMA may look to the location of the insurance manager for determining whether a head office is in Bermuda.

For the purpose of the Insurance Act, Blue Capital Re's principal office is the Company's executive offices at Waterloo House, 100 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda. The Manager, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International has been appointed and approved as the principal representative for Blue Capital Re. The principal representative has statutory reporting duties under the Bermuda Insurance Act for certain reportable events, such as threatened insolvency or non-compliance with the Insurance Act or with a condition or restriction imposed on an insurer.

Where there has been a significant loss that is reasonably likely to cause a Class 3A insurer to fail to comply with its enhanced capital requirement (as described in more detail below), the principal representative must furnish the BMA with a capital and solvency return reflecting an enhanced capital requirement prepared using post-loss data. The principal representative must provide this within forty-five days of notifying the BMA of the loss.

In addition, where a notification has been made to the BMA regarding a material change to an insurer's business or structure (as described in more detail below), the principal representative has thirty days from the date of such notification to provide to the BMA unaudited interim statutory financial statements in relation to such period if so requested by the BMA, together with a general business solvency certificate in respect of those statements.

Loss Reserve Specialist. Generally, a Class 3A insurer is required to submit annually an opinion of its approved loss reserve specialist with its financial statements and return in respect of its loss and LAE provisions. However, an insurer may file an application under the Insurance Act to waive the aforementioned requirements. In this instance, Blue Capital Re has obtained such a waiver from the BMA.

Cancellation of Insurer's Registration. The BMA may revoke or suspend Blue Capital Re's license in certain circumstances, including circumstances in which: (i) false, misleading or inaccurate information has been supplied to the BMA by Blue Capital Re or on its behalf; (ii) we have ceased to carry on business; (iii) Blue Capital Re has persistently failed to pay fees due under the Insurance Act; (iv) Blue Capital Re has failed to comply with a condition attached to its registration or with an applicable requirement under the Insurance Act; (v) we are convicted of an offense against a provision of the Insurance Act; (vi) Blue Capital Re has, in the opinion of the BMA, not been carrying on business in accordance with sound insurance principles; or (vii) any of the minimum criteria for registration under the Insurance Act is not or will not have been fulfilled. If the BMA were to suspend or revoke Blue Capital Re's license, we could lose our exemption under the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act").

Annual Statutory Financial Statements and Return; Independent Approved Auditor. The Insurance Act generally requires all insurers to: (i) prepare annual statutory financial statements and returns; (ii) submit a declaration certifying compliance with the minimum criteria applicable to it including the minimum margin of solvency, enhanced capital requirements and any restrictions or conditions imposed on its license; and (iii) appoint an independent auditor who will annually audit and report on such financial statements and returns.

The independent auditor of the insurer must be approved by the BMA and may be the same person or firm that audits the insurer's financial statements and reports for presentation to its shareholders. If the insurer fails to appoint an approved auditor or at any time fails to fill a vacancy for such auditor, the BMA may appoint an approved auditor for the insurer and shall fix the remuneration to be paid to the approved auditor. The approved auditor is required to issue written notice to the BMA of matters of material significance for the discharge of the BMA's functions as established under the Insurance Act.

An insurer may file an application under the Insurance Act to have the requirement to file audited statutory financial statements annually with the BMA waived. In this instance, Blue Capital Re has obtained such a waiver from the BMA. However, Blue Capital Re is required to prepare and file annual condensed consolidated audited GAAP financial statements with the BMA.

Blue Capital Re's independent auditor has been approved by the BMA.

Minimum Liquidity Ratio. The Insurance Act provides a minimum liquidity ratio and requires Blue Capital Re to maintain the value of its relevant assets at not less than 75% of the amount of its relevant liabilities. Relevant assets include, but are not limited to, cash and cash equivalents, investments, investment income due and accrued, accounts and premiums receivable, reinsurance balances receivable and funds held by ceding companies. Relevant liabilities include, but are not limited to, loss and LAE reserves, other liabilities, letters of credit and guarantees.

Minimum Solvency Margin. The Insurance Act provides that the value of the assets of an insurer must exceed the value of its liabilities by an amount greater than its prescribed minimum solvency margin.

The minimum solvency margin that must be maintained by a Class 3A insurer is the greatest of: (i) \$1.0 million; (ii) 20% of net premiums written where such net premiums do not exceed \$6.0 million and \$1.2 million plus 15% of net premiums written where such net premiums exceed \$6.0 million; (iii) 15% of net undiscounted aggregate loss and loss expense provisions and other insurance reserves; and (iv) 25% of that insurer's enhanced capital requirement ("ECR").

An insurer may file an application under the Insurance Act to waive the aforementioned requirements. In this instance, Blue Capital Re has obtained such a waiver from the BMA so that its minimum solvency margin shall remain at \$1.0 million at all times, provided that: (i) Blue Capital Re only enters into contracts of reinsurance that are fully-collateralized; and (ii) each transaction represents no material deviation from the original business plan filed with BMA at the time of Blue Capital Re's registration.

ECR and Bermuda Solvency Capital Requirements ("BSCR"). Class 3A insurers are required to maintain available capital and surplus at a level equal to or in excess of the applicable ECR, which is established by reference to either the BSCR - Small and Medium-Sized Entities model or an approved internal capital model. Furthermore, to enable the BMA to better assess the quality of the insurer's capital resources, a Class 3A insurer is required to disclose the makeup of its capital in accordance with its 3-tiered capital system.

An insurer may file an application under the Insurance Act to have the aforementioned ECR requirements waived. In this instance, Blue Capital Re has obtained such a waiver from the BMA and instead is required to submit a modified version of the BSCR model without an ECR.

Restrictions on Dividends and Distributions. In addition to the requirements under the Companies Act (as discussed below), the Insurance Act limits the maximum amount of annual dividends and distributions that may be paid or distributed by Blue Capital Re without prior regulatory approval.

Blue Capital Re is prohibited from declaring or paying a dividend if it fails to meet its minimum solvency margin, ECR or minimum liquidity ratio, or if the declaration or payment of such dividend would cause such breach. Additionally, annual distributions that would result in a reduction of Blue Capital Re's prior year-end balance of statutory capital and surplus by more than 25% also requires the prior approval of the BMA.

If Blue Capital Re were to fail to meet its minimum solvency margin or minimum liquidity ratio on the last day of any financial year, it would be prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends during the next financial year without the approval of the BMA.

The Companies Act also limits Blue Capital Re's ability to pay dividends and make distributions to its shareholders. Blue Capital Re is not permitted to declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of its contributed surplus, if it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due or if the realizable value of its assets would be less than its liabilities.

Reduction of Capital. Blue Capital Re may not reduce its total statutory capital by 15% or more, as set out in its previous year's financial statements, unless it has received the prior approval of the BMA. Total statutory capital consists of Blue Capital Re's paid in share capital, its contributed surplus (sometimes called additional paid in capital) and any other fixed capital designated by the BMA as statutory capital.

Supervision, Investigation and Intervention. The BMA may appoint an inspector to investigate the affairs of an insurer or a designated insurer (as detailed in "Group Supervision" below) if the BMA believes that an investigation is required in the interest of the insurer's or insurance group's policyholders or potential policyholders. In order to verify or supplement information otherwise provided to it, the BMA may direct an insurer or designated insurer to produce documents or information relating to matters connected with the insurer's or insurance group's business. Further, the BMA has the power to appoint a professional person to prepare a report on any aspect of any matter about which the BMA has required or could require information.

If it appears to the BMA that: (i) there is a risk of the insurer or designated insurer becoming insolvent; (ii) there is significant risk that the insurer will be unable to meet its policyholder obligations; (iii) the insurer or designated insurer is in breach of the Insurance Act; (iv) any conditions imposed upon its registration, or the minimum criteria stipulated in the Insurance Act are not or have not been fulfilled in respect of a registered insurer; (v) a person has become a Controller (which for this purpose means a managing director, chief executive or other person in accordance with whose directions or instructions the directors of the insurer are accustomed to act, including any person who holds 10% or more of the shares carrying rights to vote at any general meeting, or is entitled to exercise 10% or more of the voting shares or voting power or is otherwise able to

exercise a significant influence over the management of the insurer) without providing the BMA with the appropriate notice or in contravention of a notice of objection; (vi) the registered insurer is in breach of its enhanced capital requirement; or (vii) a designated insurer is in breach of any provision of the Insurance Act or the regulations or rules applicable to it, the BMA may issue such directions as appear desirable for safeguarding the interests of policyholders or potential policyholders of the insurer or the insurance group. The BMA may also direct the insurer or designated insurer: (i) not to effect further contracts of insurance business; (ii) not to vary any insurance contract when the direction is given if the effect would be to increase the insurer's liabilities; (iii) not to make any investments of a specified class; (iv) to realize any existing investments of a specified class; (v) to maintain in, or transfer to the custody of, a specified bank assets of the insurer that are specified in the direction; (vi) not to declare or pay any dividends or other distributions or to restrict the making of such payments; (vii) to limit its premium income; (viii) to remove a Controller or officer; or (ix) to file a petition for the winding-up of the insurer.

The BMA may also make rules prescribing prudential standards with which the insurer must comply. Blue Capital Re may make an application to be exempted from such rules.

**Winding-up.** The BMA may present a petition for the winding-up of an insurer on the grounds that: (i) the insurer is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of sections 161 and 162 of the Companies Act; (ii) the insurer has failed to satisfy an obligation to which it is or was subject by virtue of the Insurance Act; or (iii) the insurer has failed to satisfy the obligation imposed upon it by section 15 of the Insurance Act as to the preparation of accounts or to produce or file financial statements in accordance with section 17 of the Insurance Act, and that the BMA is unable to ascertain the insurer's financial position. In addition, if it appears to the BMA that it is expedient in the public interest that an insurer should be wound up, it may present a petition for it to be so wound up if a court thinks it just and equitable for it to be so wound up.

**Disclosure of Information.** In addition to powers under the Insurance Act to investigate the affairs of an insurer, the BMA may require certain information from an insurer (or certain other persons) to be produced to it. The BMA has also been given powers to assist foreign regulatory authorities with their investigations involving insurance and reinsurance companies in Bermuda, subject to certain restrictions. For example, the BMA must be satisfied that the assistance being requested is in connection with the discharge of regulatory responsibilities of the foreign regulatory authority. Further, the BMA must consider whether cooperation with the foreign regulatory authorities is in the public interest. The grounds for disclosure by the BMA to a foreign regulatory authority without consent of the insurer are limited and the Insurance Act provides sanctions for breach of the statutory duty of confidentiality.

**Bermuda Insurance Code.** The Bermuda Insurance Code contains the duties, requirements and compliance standards to be adhered to by all insurers. The Bermuda Insurance Code stipulates that insurers are to develop and apply policies and procedures capable of assessment by the BMA. The board of directors of Blue Capital Re has the responsibility to ensure that Blue Capital Re is compliant with the Bermuda Insurance Code and is required to file annually a statutory declaration confirming compliance with the Bermuda Insurance Code.

**Insurance Manager Code of Conduct.** The Insurance Manager Code of Conduct establishes duties, requirements and compliance standards to be adhered to by all insurance managers registered under the Bermuda Insurance Act, including the procedure and sound principles to be observed by insurance managers. The Manager is subject to the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct and is required to file annually prior to June 30 an annual return, and a statutory declaration confirming its compliance with the Insurance Manager Code of Conduct.

**Group Supervision.** The BMA may, in respect of an insurance group, determine whether it is appropriate for it to act as its group supervisor. An "insurance group" is defined as a group of companies that conducts exclusively, or mainly, insurance business.

None of the Company, Blue Capital Re or Blue Capital Re ILS is currently subject to group supervision, but the BMA may exercise its authority to act as our group supervisor in the future if we were to form an overseas entity.

## **Notifications to the BMA**

**Notification of Material Changes.** All registered insurers are required to give notice to the BMA of their intention to effect a material change within the meaning of the Insurance Act. For the purposes of the Insurance Act, the following changes are material: (i) the transfer or acquisition of insurance business that is part of a scheme falling under section 25 of the Insurance Act or section 99 of the Companies Act; (ii) the amalgamation with or acquisition of another firm; (iii) engaging in unrelated business that is retail business; (iv) the acquisition of a controlling interest in an undertaking that is engaged in non-insurance business which offers services and products to persons who are not affiliates of the insurer; (v) outsourcing all or substantially all of our actuarial, risk management or internal audit functions; (vi) outsourcing all or a material part of an insurer's



underwriting activity; (vii) the transfer, other than by way of reinsurance, of all or substantially all of a line of business; (viii) the expansion into a material new line of business; (ix) the sale of an insurer; or (x) outsourcing of an officer role.

No registered insurer shall take any steps to give effect to a material change unless it has first served notice on the BMA that it intends to effect such material change and, before the end of 30 days, either the BMA has notified such company in writing that it has no objection to such change or the period has lapsed without the BMA having issued a notice of objection.

Before issuing a notice of objection, the BMA is required to serve upon the person concerned a preliminary written notice stating the BMA's intention to issue a formal notice of objection. Upon receipt of the preliminary written notice, the person served may, within 28 days, file written representations with the BMA which shall be taken into account by the BMA in making its final determination.

#### Change of Shareholder Controller, Controller or Officer

In the event that the share capital of an insurer (or its parent) is traded on any stock exchange recognized by the BMA, then any shareholder must notify the BMA within 45 days of becoming a 10%, 20%, 33% or 50% shareholder of such insurer. Additionally, an insurer is also required to submit in writing to the BMA within 45 days, notification of a Shareholder Controller's (as defined in the Insurance Act) disposal or acquisition of shares whereby their proportion of voting rights held would reach or fall below 10%, 20%, 33% or 50%. An insurer or reinsurer must also provide written notice to the BMA that a person has become, or ceased to be, a Controller (as defined in the Insurance Act) of that insurer or reinsurer.

Blue Capital Re is also required to notify the BMA in writing in the event any person has become or has ceased to be a Controller or an officer of it, an officer being a director, chief executive or senior executive performing duties of underwriting, actuarial, risk management, compliance, internal audit, finance or investment matters.

In addition, the Manager, as an insurance manager licensed under the Insurance Act, is required to give written notice to the BMA of the fact of any person having become or ceased to be a shareholder controller or officer of the Manager within 14 days of the insurance manager becoming aware of the relevant facts related to such change.

Failure to give any required notice is an offense under the Insurance Act.

#### Certain Other Bermuda Law Considerations

Although the Company is incorporated in Bermuda, it is designated as non-resident for Bermuda exchange control purposes by the BMA. Pursuant to its non-resident status, the Company may engage in transactions in currencies other than Bermuda dollars, and there are no restrictions on the Company's ability to transfer funds (other than funds denominated in Bermuda dollars) in and out of Bermuda.

Each of the Company, Blue Capital Re and Blue Capital Re ILS is incorporated in Bermuda as an "exempted company." Under Bermuda law, exempted companies are companies formed for the purpose of conducting business outside Bermuda from a principal place of business in Bermuda. As a result, they are exempt from Bermuda laws restricting the percentage of share capital that may be held by non-Bermudians, but they may not participate in certain business transactions, including: (i) the acquisition or holding of land in Bermuda (except that required for their business and held by way of lease or tenancy for a term of not more than 50 years, or, with the consent of the Minister of Economic Development, that which is used to provide accommodations or recreational facilities for its officers and employees and is held by way of lease or tenancy for a term of not more than 21 years) without the express authorization of the Bermuda legislature; (ii) the taking of mortgages on land in Bermuda to secure an amount in excess of \$50,000 without the consent of the relevant Ministers; (iii) the acquisition of any bonds or debentures secured by any land in Bermuda, other than certain types of Bermuda government securities; or (iv) the carrying on of business of any kind in Bermuda, except in furtherance of their business carried on outside Bermuda or under license granted by the Minister of Economic Development.

Blue Capital Re is a licensed insurer in Bermuda, and so it may carry on activities from Bermuda that are related to and in support of its insurance business. Effective as of January 1, 2019, the Insurance Act was amended to prohibit the entry into non-insurance business by both commercial and non-commercial insurers. However, all insurers will continue to be able to engage in non-insurance business where such business is ancillary to the insurance business carried on by the insurer.

Exempted companies, such as the Company, Blue Capital Re and Blue Capital Re ILS, must comply with Bermuda resident representation provisions under the Companies Act. Securities may be offered or sold in Bermuda only in compliance with the provisions of the Investment Business Act 2003 and the Exchange Control Act 1972 and related regulations of Bermuda which

regulate the sale of securities in Bermuda. In addition, specific permission is required from the BMA, pursuant to the provisions of the Exchange Control Act 1972 and related regulations, for all issuances and transfers of securities of Bermuda companies, other than in cases where the BMA has granted a general permission. The BMA, in its policy dated June 1, 2005, provides that where any equity securities of a Bermuda company, which would include the Company's Common Shares, are listed on an appointed stock exchange, general permission is given for the issue and subsequent transfer of any securities of the company from and to a non-resident, for as long as any equity securities of the company remain so listed.

Notwithstanding the above general permission, the Company has applied for and received permission from the BMA to issue, grant, create, sell and transfer freely any of our Common Shares, stock, bonds, notes (other than promissory notes), debentures, debenture stock, units under a unit trust scheme, shares in an oil royalty, options, coupons, rights and depository receipts to and among persons who are either resident or non-resident of Bermuda for exchange control purposes.

The Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 2016 became operative in Bermuda on March 28, 2016 and permits third parties, who are expressly identified in a contract but not specifically party to such contract, to be entitled to enforce and benefit from the terms of the contract, subject to certain requirements. The Bermuda legislation closely resembles the existing UK rights of third parties legislation.

The Bribery Act 2016 (the "Bribery Act") became operative on September 1, 2017. The Bribery Act is largely based on the UK's Bribery Act 2010, and aims to provide a modern and comprehensive scheme of bribery offenses in order to allow investigators, prosecutors and the courts to tackle bribery effectively, whether committed in Bermuda or overseas. The Bribery Act applies to any Bermuda individuals, or incorporated companies or other corporate entities (including partnerships) conducting business, whether in or outside of Bermuda, and any non-Bermuda incorporated companies, corporate entities (including partnerships) or individuals conducting business in Bermuda. The Company and its Bermuda subsidiaries have reviewed the Bribery Act and have in place a comprehensive Anti-Bribery Policy.

The Companies and Limited Liability Company (Beneficial Ownership) Amendment Act 2017, Exchange Control Amendment Act 2018 and the Partnership, Exempted Partnerships and Limited Partnership (Beneficial Ownership) Amendment Act 2018 came into operation on March 23, 2018, and created a requirement for entities (that are not exempt) to maintain and file a register of beneficial ownership with the BMA. There was a six-month transition period for this legislation, which has been further extended, and entities are required to have a beneficial ownership register in place by February 28, 2019. The BMA has confirmed that regulated entities (e.g. insurers registered under the Insurance Act) and listed-entities and their subsidiaries are exempt and do not need to maintain a beneficial ownership register. Therefore, no further action is required by the Company or its Bermuda subsidiaries in respect of the beneficial ownership requirements.

The Economic Substance Act 2018 and the Economic Substance Regulations 2018 (the "ESA") came into effect on December 31, 2018, and apply to all Bermuda registered companies, limited liability companies and partnerships with separate legal personality engaged in relevant activities. Existing Bermuda entities have until June 30, 2019 to comply. Additional changes are anticipated to this legislation and further guidance on its application will be provided by the Bermuda authorities. However, the ESA currently provides that all relevant entities (which includes Bermuda companies, limited liability companies and partnerships that have elected to have separate legal personality) engaged in relevant activities must maintain a substantial economic presence in Bermuda. A relevant activity is defined in the ESA as "banking, insurance, fund management, financing, leasing, headquarters, shipping, distribution and service centre, intellectual property and holding entities". For companies registered under the Insurance Act, it is anticipated that the ESA will mean little change in practice other than the filing of an annual economic substance declaration. For pure holding companies, the ESA specifies that they only need to meet the minimum requirements, which means compliance with the Companies Act 1981, as amended, the filing of an annual economic substance declaration, and confirmation that such holding companies have "adequate employees for holding and managing equity participations and adequate premises in Bermuda". The term "adequate" is not defined in the ESA and the scope of the requirement will need to be assessed on a case by case basis in the particular circumstances. Government guidance notes are expected to address the parameters of what constitutes "adequate" for different types of entities. The Company currently has a substantive connection to Bermuda and is monitoring these developments to confirm what if any additional actions may be required.

## **EMPLOYEES**

We do not have any employees. Our CEO and CFO are employees of Sampo International and they provide us with these services pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement and Investment Management Agreement.

We do not have the staff or capability to manage our underwriting or investment practices within our organization. Instead, we have outsourced these functions to the Manager, subject to oversight by our CEO, our CFO and the Board. As a result, the performance of the Manager is critical to our business.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

There are no aspects of our business that require a patent, trademark or copyright. We do not own any patent, trademark or copyright. Sompo International owns the registered Blue Capital® trademark and we have entered into a trademark license agreement with Sompo International providing for a royalty-free license of this trademark. Under the terms of the trademark license agreement, we generally must indemnify Sompo International and its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and permitted assigns for, from and against losses: (i) on account of any third-party claim or proceeding arising out of the performance of the trademark license agreement; or (ii) from any breach of, or failure to perform, any covenant or obligation of ours contained in the trademark license agreement.

## IMPLICATIONS OF BEING A SMALLER REPORTING COMPANY

We qualify as a "smaller reporting company" as defined in Item 10(f) of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act of 1933. As a result, we are eligible to take advantage of scaled disclosure requirements and financial reporting requirements made available in Regulation S-K for smaller reporting companies and Article 8 of Regulation S-X. These scaled disclosure requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Selected financial data, under Regulation S-K, Item 301 is not required;
- No requirement to provide supplementary financial information, under Regulation S-K, Item 302;
- Financial statement schedules, under Regulation S-X, Article 12 are not required;
- Item 8. *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data* and Item 7. *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* are only required to present two years rather than three years of financial results;
- No risk factors required to be disclosed in filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

We intend to take advantage of some, but not all, of the scaled disclosure requirements available to smaller reporting companies. Accordingly, the information contained herein may be different from the information you receive from other public companies in which you invest.

We will continue to qualify to be a smaller reporting company provided we meet the following criteria (i) Public float of less than \$250 million; or (ii) Less than \$100 million of annual revenues and no public float, or public float of less than \$700 million. In addition, we are deemed to be an "accelerated filer," as defined under the Exchange Act. As a result we will remain subject to the requirements that apply to accelerated filers, including the timing of the filing of periodic reports and the requirement that accelerated filers provide the auditor's attestation of management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting required by Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. In accordance therewith, we file reports, proxy statements and other information with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). These documents are electronically available at [www.bcapre.bm](http://www.bcapre.bm) and [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) at the same time they are filed with or furnished to the SEC. They are also available to copy or view at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549. For further information call 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, our Code of Conduct and Ethics as well as the various charters governing the actions of certain of our Committees of the Board, including our Audit Committee and our Compensation and Nominating Committee charters, are available at [www.bcapre.bm](http://www.bcapre.bm). Updates to, as well as waivers of, our Code of Conduct and Ethics will also be made available on our website. Our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and nothing from our website shall be deemed to be incorporated into this report.

We will provide to any shareholder, upon request and without charge, copies of these documents (excluding any applicable exhibits unless specifically requested). Requests should be directed to Investor Relations, Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd., Suite No. 784, 48 Par-la-ville Road, Hamilton, Bermuda HM 11, telephone (441) 278-0988 or [investorrelations@sompo-intl.com](mailto:investorrelations@sompo-intl.com). All such documents are also physically available at our principal office at Waterloo House, 100 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

*Before investing in any of our securities, you should carefully consider the following risk factors and all other information set forth in this Form 10-K. These risks could materially affect our business, results of operations or financial condition and could cause the trading price of our securities to decline. You could lose all or part of your investment. The headings used in this section are solely to aid the reader as to general categories of risks related to investing in the Company. Many of the risk factors listed apply to more than one category or to the Company generally. Accordingly, the headings used in this section should not be construed as limiting in any manner the general applicability of any of the risk factors included in this section. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we deem immaterial may also impair our business or results of operations.*

### UNDERWRITING RISKS

#### **As a catastrophe reinsurer, we are particularly vulnerable to losses from catastrophes.**

We are exposed to claims arising out of catastrophes. Catastrophes can be caused by various unpredictable events, including earthquakes, hurricanes, hailstorms, severe weather, floods, fires, tornadoes, volcano eruptions, explosions and other natural or man-made disasters. Many scientists believe that the earth's atmospheric and oceanic temperatures are increasing and that, in recent years, changing climate conditions have increased the unpredictability, severity and frequency of natural disasters in certain parts of the world.

The global geographic distribution of our business subjects us to catastrophe exposure for natural events occurring in a number of areas throughout the world, including, but not limited to, windstorms in the United Kingdom and continental Europe, hurricanes in Florida, the Gulf Coast and the Atlantic coast regions of the United States, typhoons and earthquakes in Japan, New Zealand, Australia and other parts of Southeast Asia, earthquakes in California and the Pacific Northwest and New Madrid region of the United States, wildfires in the forested regions of the United States and Canada and hail, tornado and flooding in the Midwestern United States. From time to time, we may have greater exposures in one or more of these geographic areas than our overall share of the worldwide market might suggest. Accordingly, when and if catastrophes occur in these areas, we may experience relatively more severe negative results from such events than our competitors.

In addition, changing climate conditions, primarily rising global temperatures, may be increasing, or may in the future increase the frequency and severity of natural catastrophes, including weather events, and may create new types of catastrophe losses. We expect that increases in the values and concentrations of insured property will increase the severity of such occurrences in the future. In the event that we experience catastrophe losses, there is a possibility that our premiums will be inadequate to cover these risks. In addition, because accounting regulations do not permit reinsurers to reserve for such catastrophic events until they occur, claims from catastrophic events could cause substantial volatility in our financial results for any fiscal quarter or year and could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. Furthermore, the estimation of reserves related to catastrophic events can be affected by the inability to access portions of the affected areas, the complexity of factors contributing to the losses, legal and regulatory uncertainties and the nature of the information available to establish the reserves. Complex factors include but are not limited to: determining whether damage was caused by flooding versus wind; evaluating pollution exposures; estimating additional living expenses; the impact of demand surge; infrastructure disruption; fraud; the effect of mold damage; business interruption costs; and reinsurance collectability. The timing of a catastrophe's occurrence, such as at or near the end of a reporting period, can also affect the information available to us in estimating reserves for that reporting period. The estimates related to catastrophes are adjusted as actual claims emerge and additional information becomes available. Our ability to write new business also could be adversely impacted.

As a fully-collateralized reinsurer, any sudden and substantial calls upon our collateral resources may prevent us from being able to enter into future collateralized reinsurance contracts.

The Manager manages some of our key quantifiable risks using a combination of proprietary risk management models and systems, various third-party models and its underwriting judgment. The models utilized by the Manager help it to control risk accumulation, to inform our management and to improve our risk/return profile; however, these models may prove to be inaccurate and may understate our exposures. The Manager focuses on tracking exposed contract limits, estimating the potential impact of a single catastrophe event, and simulating our annual performance to reflect our aggregate underwriting and investment risk. We cannot assure you that any of these techniques, including the use of modeling techniques, will be successful in managing our risks. Accordingly, if the Manager's assumptions are incorrect, the losses that we might incur from an actual catastrophe could be significantly higher than the Manager's expectation of losses generated from modeled catastrophe scenarios and, as a result, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

**The risks associated with property catastrophe reinsurance underwriting could adversely affect us.**

Because we participate in property catastrophe reinsurance markets, the success of our underwriting efforts depends, in part, upon the policies, procedures and expertise of the ceding companies making the original underwriting decisions. We face the risk that these ceding companies may fail to accurately assess the risks that they assume initially, which, in turn, may lead us to inaccurately assess the risks we assume. If we fail to establish and receive appropriate premium rates, we could face significant losses on these contracts.

**If actual renewals of our existing contracts do not meet expectations, our gross premiums written in future years and our future results of operations could be materially adversely affected.**

Our reinsurance contracts are generally for a one-year term. In our financial forecasting process, we make assumptions about the renewal of our prior year's policies and contracts. If actual renewals do not meet expectations, our gross premiums written in future years and our future results of operations could be materially adversely affected. This risk is especially prevalent in the first quarter of each year when a large number of reinsurance contracts are subject to renewal.

**The failure of any of the loss limitation methods we employ, as well as an unexpected accumulation of attritional losses, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or on our results of operations.**

We seek to limit our loss exposure in a variety of ways, including by writing many of our reinsurance contracts on an excess of loss basis, adhering to maximum limitations on policies written in defined geographical zones, limiting program size for each client, establishing per risk and per occurrence limitations for each event, employing coverage restrictions, following prudent underwriting guidelines for each program written and purchasing retrocessional protection. We seek to limit our loss exposure through geographic diversification. Disputes relating to coverage and choice of legal forum may also arise. As a result, various provisions of our policies, such as limitations or exclusions from coverage or choice of forum, may not be enforceable in the manner we intend and some or all of our other loss limitation methods may prove to be ineffective. Underwriting is a matter of judgment, involving important assumptions about matters that are inherently unpredictable and beyond our control, and for which historical experience and probability analysis may not provide sufficient guidance. One or more future catastrophic or other events could result in claims that substantially exceed our expectations, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and our results of operations, possibly to the extent of eliminating our shareholders' equity.

Our operating results may also be adversely affected by unexpectedly large accumulations of smaller losses. We seek to manage this risk by using appropriate loss limitation methods as noted above. These processes are intended to ensure that premiums received are sufficient to cover the expected levels of attritional loss as well as a contribution to the cost of natural catastrophes and large losses where necessary. It is possible, however, that our loss limitation methods may not work as intended in this respect and that actual losses, including attritional losses, from a class of risks may be greater than expected, which may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and our results of operations.

**Profitability may be adversely impacted by inflation.**

The effects of inflation could cause the cost of claims from catastrophes or other events to rise in the future. Our reserve for losses and LAE includes assumptions about future payments for settlement of claims and claims handling expenses. To the extent inflation causes these costs to increase above reserves established for these claims, we will be required to increase our loss reserves with a corresponding reduction in our net income in the period in which the deficiency is identified.

**Adverse changes to the economies where our clients are located could lower the demand for our reinsurance products and could have a materially adverse effect on the profitability of our operations.**

Factors such as consumer spending, business investment, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, inflation, and membership in key economic and political confederations such as the European Union all affect the business and economic environment and, indirectly, the amount and profitability of our business. In an economic environment characterized by higher unemployment, lower family income, lower corporate earnings, lower business investment and lower consumer spending, the demand for insurance products could be adversely affected. Adverse changes in the economy could potentially lead our customers to have less need for reinsurance coverage, to cancel existing reinsurance policies, modify coverage or to not renew with us, and our premium revenue could be adversely affected. Challenging economic conditions also may impair the ability of our customers to pay premiums as they come due.

The continuing worldwide economic instability has resulted in global financial market uncertainty and economic instability. Consequently, evolving market conditions may continue to affect our results of operations, financial position and capital resources. In the event that there is further deterioration or volatility in financial markets or general economic conditions, our results of operations, financial position and/or liquidity, and competitive landscape could be materially and adversely affected.

**As a property reinsurer, we could face losses from terrorism.**

We may have substantial exposure to losses resulting from acts of terrorism. It is difficult to predict their occurrence with statistical certainty or to estimate the amount of loss an occurrence will generate. Accordingly, it is possible that our premiums will be inadequate to cover this risk. We closely monitor the amount and types of coverage we provide for terrorism risk under reinsurance treaties. We often seek to exclude terrorism when we cannot reasonably evaluate the risk of loss or charge an appropriate premium for such risk. Even in cases where we have deliberately sought to exclude coverage, we may not be able to eliminate our exposure to terrorist acts, and thus it is possible that these acts will have a material adverse effect on us.

**Since we depend on a few brokers for a large portion of our revenues, loss of business provided by any one of them could adversely affect us.**

We market our reinsurance worldwide through reinsurance brokers. In the year ended December 31, 2018, our top three brokers represented approximately 82% of our reinsurance premiums written. Loss of all or a substantial portion of the business provided by one or more of these brokers could have a material adverse effect on our business.

**We are subject to institutional credit risk that may adversely affect our business because we do business with institutions such as brokers, banks, custodians and other counterparties.**

In the event of the insolvency of the institutions, including brokers, banks, custodians and other counterparties, with which we do business, or to which our assets have been entrusted, we may be temporarily or permanently deprived of the assets held by or entrusted to that institution, which may affect our performance.

In accordance with industry practice, we frequently pay amounts owed on claims under our reinsurance contracts to brokers, and these brokers, in turn, pay these amounts to the clients that have purchased reinsurance from us. If a broker fails to make such a payment, in a significant majority of business that we write, it is highly likely that we will be liable to the client for the deficiency because of local laws or contractual obligations, notwithstanding the broker's obligation to make such payment. Likewise, when the client pays premiums for these policies to brokers for payment over to us, these premiums are considered to have been paid and, in most cases, the client will no longer be liable to us for those amounts, whether or not we have actually received the premiums. Consequently, we assume a degree of credit risk associated with brokers around the world with respect to most of our reinsurance business. To date we have not experienced any losses related to such credit risks.

**Our investments in insurance-linked contracts subject us to counterparty risk, which could result in substantial losses to us.**

While we predominantly enter into fully-collateralized reinsurance contracts, we may, in accordance with our underwriting guidelines and when the Manager identifies suitable opportunities, also invest in other reinsurance-linked investments, including swaps and similar derivative transactions. A swap transaction is an individually negotiated, non-standardized agreement between two parties to exchange cash flows (and sometimes principal amounts) with payments generally calculated by reference to a principal ("notional") amount or quantity. These transactions may require that a portion of our assets be held as collateral subject to a perfected security interest in favor of the counterparty. Although pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 swap contracts and similar derivatives may be subject to mandatory centralized trade execution and clearing, not all swap contracts and similar derivatives are subject to these requirements. As a result, we are subject to the risk of the inability or refusal to perform with respect to such contracts on the part of the counterparties with which we trade. Any such failure or refusal, whether due to insolvency, bankruptcy, default or another cause, could subject us to substantial losses.

**We rely on information provided by cedants and brokers in determining whether amounts are due following the occurrence of a covered event, and the Manager may rely on incomplete or unverified information when making investment or underwriting decisions.**

The determination of whether amounts are due following the occurrence of a covered event is typically based on reports and may be based upon information provided by cedants, brokers or an independent source, such as an index. In addition, the Manager may rely on imperfect information when making its decisions. The Manager may elect to invest in insurance-linked securities or make an underwriting decision on the basis of information and data filed by the issuer of an instrument or made directly available to the Manager by other sources, for example by a broker. The Manager is not in a position to confirm the completeness, genuineness or accuracy of this information or data. If any of this information or data is incomplete, not genuine or inaccurate, our performance may be adversely affected. In addition, the Manager may not have access to the same information or data or access to the same transactions in which established entities participate, which could adversely affect our business.

**The effects of emerging claim and coverage issues on our business are uncertain.**

As industry practices and legal, judicial, social and other environmental conditions change, unexpected and unintended issues related to claims and coverage may emerge. These issues may adversely affect our business by either broadening coverage beyond our underwriting intent or by increasing the number or size of claims. In some instances, these changes may not become apparent until sometime after we have issued reinsurance contracts that are affected by the changes. As a result, the full extent of liability under our reinsurance contracts may not be known for several years after a contract is issued. For example, an emerging claim and coverage issue is a growing trend of plaintiffs targeting property and casualty insurers relating to claims-handling practices in the adjustment of losses relating to natural disasters.

We may also be deemed liable for losses arising out of a matter that we had not anticipated or had attempted to contractually exclude. Moreover, irrespective of the clarity and inclusiveness of reinsurance contract language, there can be no assurance that a court or arbitration panel will limit enforceability of reinsurance contract language or not issue a ruling adverse to us. Our exposure to these uncertainties could be exacerbated by the increased willingness of some market participants to dispute reinsurance contract wordings. Alternatively, potential efforts by us to exclude such exposures could, if successful, reduce the market's acceptance of our related products. The effects of these and other unforeseen emerging claim and coverage issues are extremely hard to predict and could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

**The historical cyclical nature of the property catastrophe reinsurance industry may cause fluctuations in our results.**

Historically, property catastrophe reinsurers have experienced significant fluctuations in operating results due to competition, frequency of occurrence or severity of catastrophic events, levels of capacity, general economic conditions and other factors. Demand for reinsurance is influenced significantly by prevailing general economic conditions and, in the case of reinsurance, the underwriting results of primary property and casualty insurers. The supply of reinsurance is related to prevailing prices, the levels of insured losses and the levels of industry surplus which, in turn, may fluctuate in response to changes in rates of return on investments being earned in the reinsurance industry. As a result, the reinsurance business historically has been a cyclical industry characterized by periods of intense price competition due to excessive underwriting capacity as well as periods when shortages of capacity permitted favorable premium levels. The continued strength of the industry's surplus position and the establishment of new market entrants has increased the supply of reinsurance and has caused reinsurance prices in many of the markets in which we participate to decrease in the past years. Any of these factors could lead to a significant reduction in premium rates, less favorable policy terms and fewer submissions for reinsurance coverage. In addition to these considerations, changes in the frequency and severity of losses suffered by insureds and cedants may affect the cycles of the reinsurance business significantly. To the extent these trends continue, our financial condition or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

**We operate in a highly competitive environment which could adversely impact our operating margins.**

The reinsurance industries are highly competitive. We compete with major U.S. and non-U.S. reinsurers, including other Bermuda-based reinsurers. Many of our competitors have greater financial, marketing and management resources. In addition, we may not be aware of other companies that may be planning to enter the segments of the reinsurance market in which we operate or of existing companies that may be planning to raise additional capital. Increasing competition could result in fewer submissions, lower premium rates and less favorable policy terms and conditions, which could have a material adverse impact on our growth and profitability.

Insurance/risk-linked securities and derivative and other non-traditional risk transfer mechanisms and vehicles are being developed and offered by other parties, including non-insurance company entities, which could impact the demand for 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 reinsurance to fall or the expense of customer acquisition and retention to increase, either of which could have a material adverse effect on our growth and profitability.

**Our stated catastrophe and enterprise-wide risk management exposures are based on estimates and judgments which are subject to significant uncertainties.**

Our approach to risk management, and our estimates of the net impact from single event losses such as those set forth in Item 7 herein, rely on subjective variables that entail significant uncertainties. For example, in our reinsurance contracts, the effectiveness of our reinsurance contract zonal limits in managing risk depends largely on the degree to which an actual event is confined to the zone in question and on our ability to determine the actual location of the risks insured. Moreover, in the reinsurance contracts we write, the definition of a single occurrence may differ from policy to policy, and the legal interpretation of a policy's various terms and conditions following a catastrophic event may be different from that which we envisioned at its inception. For these and other reasons, there can be no assurance that our actual net aggregate reinsurance treaty limits by zone, or our net impact from single event loss by return period, will not exceed the natural catastrophe risk management tolerances we have established.

In addition, our natural catastrophe risk management involves a substantial number of subjective variables, factors and uncertainties. Small changes in assumptions, which depend heavily on the Manager's and our judgment, can have a significant impact on the modeled outputs. Although we believe that these probabilistic measures provide a meaningful indicator of the relative riskiness of certain events and changes to our business over time, these measures do not predict our actual exposure to, nor guarantee our successful management of, future losses that could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

**The Board has approved broad underwriting guidelines for the Manager and neither the Board nor our management will approve each decision made by the Manager.**

The Manager is authorized to follow broad guidelines in pursuing our strategy, portfolio execution, risk management and other support services. The Board periodically reviews our guidelines and our portfolio and asset management decisions. They do not, however, review or approve all of our proposed investment decisions or underwriting decisions. In addition, in conducting periodic reviews, our management and the Board rely primarily on information provided to them by the Manager. The Manager has great latitude within the guidelines to determine the types of investments and underwriting decisions it will make on our behalf. Poor decisions by the Manager could have a material adverse effect on our business.

**We may change our underwriting guidelines or our strategy without shareholder approval.**

The Board has the authority to change our underwriting guidelines or our strategy without notice to shareholders and without shareholder approval. As a result, we may make fundamental changes to our operations without shareholder approval, which could result in our pursuing a strategy or implementing underwriting guidelines that may be materially different from the strategy or underwriting guidelines described in the section titled "*Business*" or elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## OPERATING RISKS

**We do not have any employees of our own, and we depend on service providers to perform substantially all of our executive, administrative and other functions, and termination of any of these relationships may materially disrupt our business.**

We do not have any employees of our own. Our CEO and our CFO are employees of Sompo International and their services are provided to us through the Investment Management Agreement and Administrative Services Agreement.

Our CEO is the President and CEO of the Manager, the CFO of Sompo International and does not dedicate all of his time to running our business and is not required to dedicate any specific amount of time to running our business. As a result of his other obligations, our CEO may not be able to dedicate as much time to running our business as would a typical CEO, and he may face conflicts of interest that may make it difficult for him to operate our business.



Our CFO also serves as the Controller and Vice President of Sompo International and is the Treasurer of the Manager, and, therefore, does not dedicate all of his time to running our business and is not required to dedicate any specific amount of time to running our business. As a result of his other obligations, our CFO is not able to dedicate as much time to running our business as would a typical CFO, and he may face conflicts of interest that may make it difficult for him to operate our business.

We rely on service providers to perform many of our executive, administrative and other functions. In particular, affiliates of Sompo International provide us with accounting, legal, internal audit, administrative and other services that are integral to our day-to-day operations. Failure by any service provider, whether or not an affiliate of Sompo International, to carry out its obligations to us in accordance with the terms of its agreement or to perform its obligations to us as a result of insolvency, bankruptcy or other causes could make it difficult, or in some cases impossible, for us to operate our business. In addition, the termination of any of these service relationships or any delay in appointing or finding a suitable replacement provider (if one exists) could make it difficult for us to operate our business.

**Our Chairman and CEO, CFO and the officers of the Manager are compensated by Sompo International.**

Our Chairman and CEO, CFO and the officers of the Manager are employees of Sompo International and are compensated by Sompo International, including through membership in Sompo International's incentive compensation plans. As a result, they may, consciously or unconsciously, favor Sompo International in dealings among us, Sompo International and the Manager.

**Reputation is an important factor in the reinsurance industry, and our lack of an established reputation may make it difficult for us to attract or retain clients.**

Reputation is a very important factor in the reinsurance industry, and competition for clients is, in part, based on reputation. Our lack of an established reputation may make it difficult for us to attract or retain clients. While some counterparties may prefer to enter into reinsurance contracts with a rated reinsurer, we do not intend to obtain financial strength ratings. We do not own the Blue Capital® trademark, but we have entered into a trademark license agreement with Sompo International providing for the license of the Blue Capital® trademark to us. We will consequently be unable to prevent any damage to our reputation that may occur as a result of the activities of Sompo International and others. Furthermore, in the event that any of the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement or the Administrative Services Agreement is terminated, or the trademark license agreement is otherwise terminated, we may be unable to use the Blue Capital® trademark.

**We rely on the Manager for services that are essential to the operation of our business, and the loss of the Manager would make it difficult to operate our business.**

The Manager manages our assets, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board. Because we have no full-time employees, we are not able to manage our assets without the benefit of the services of the Manager, which has significant discretion as to the management of such assets.

The Manager provides underwriting services to Blue Capital Re, including underwriting decisions, loss control, exposure management and modeling and statistical, claims, actuarial and administrative support services. Because we do not have any employees of our own, we cannot implement our underwriting strategy without the benefit of these services, and the Manager has significant discretion as to our underwriting practices, within the broad scope of our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board. We are also dependent on the Manager to accurately price the risks underwritten on its behalf pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement in order to meet our financial goals.

In the event that these services were to cease to be available from the Manager, we would be required to replace the Manager with one or more third-parties or to hire employees. In addition, the performance of the Manager depends heavily on the experience and availability of a limited number of individuals, all of whom are affiliated with Sompo International. Any loss of these individuals, for example, to death, incapacity, termination or resignation, could adversely affect the performance of the Manager. We cannot assure you that we could find a suitable replacement for the Manager quickly or at all, and any replacement may increase our expenses. The loss of the Manager could materially impair our ability to successfully operate our business.

**We are dependent on Sompo International and if Sompo International were to experience difficulties, we could be materially adversely affected.**

Since the Manager is an affiliate of Sompo International, and our CEO and CFO are both employees of Sompo International, if Sompo International's business were to experience difficulties, the attention and time of Sompo International's management would likely be directed to dealing with those difficulties. In these circumstances, there may not be sufficient management attention to our business, and our operations could suffer. In addition, in that event it is also possible that ceding companies would be reluctant to do business with Sompo International, and therefore us, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. It may be difficult, costly or time-consuming to replace the Manager or the other services Sompo International provides.

**We compete with the Manager's other accounts for access to its services.**

The Manager manages multiple accounts with focuses that may overlap to a greater or lesser extent with our strategy, and the Manager expects to continue to do so in the future. The Manager is not restricted in any way from sponsoring or accepting business or capital from new clients, insurance companies, funds or other accounts, including businesses that are similar to, or that overlap with, our business. Therefore, we compete with other sources of capital for access to the time and attention of the Manager. For the same reasons, the personnel of the Manager dedicate a substantial portion of their time and attention to managing third-party assets.

**We compete with Sompo International accounts, accounts affiliated with Sompo International and third-parties for underwriting opportunities and other opportunities.**

Many, if not most, of our targeted underwriting and other opportunities are also opportunities targeted to a greater or lesser extent by Sompo International, affiliates of Sompo International and other accounts of the Manager. The Manager is not required to allocate any or all such opportunities to us. The Manager makes available to us opportunities to enter into reinsurance transactions, purchase insurance-linked securities and make investments that it determines are appropriate for us in accordance with its allocation policies and our underwriting guidelines. The Manager has significant discretion as to our investment and underwriting practices, subject to our underwriting guidelines and the oversight of the Board. We expect that the Manager will primarily allocate any overlapping opportunities on a proportional basis among the various accounts that it manages.

**There may be conflicts of interest that result from our relationships with Sompo International and the Manager, which could result in decisions that are not in the best interests of our shareholders.**

There may be conflicts of interest that arise out of our relationship with Sompo International and the Manager. Our Chairman, CEO and CFO are employees of Sompo International. In addition, the Manager is wholly-owned by Sompo International. As a result, our officers, our directors or the Manager may have conflicts between their duties to us and their duties to, and interests in, Sompo International or other parties.

Pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement we participate in retrocessional, quota share and fronting agreements with Sompo International or its affiliates, and we may enter into other agreements or acquire investments in which Sompo International or its affiliates have an interest. These transactions may present conflicts of interest among us and Sompo International.

In deciding whether to issue debt or equity securities, we rely in part on recommendations made to us by the Manager. Because the Manager earns fees that are closely related to the total amount of our earnings and capital, the Manager may have an incentive to recommend that we issue debt or equity securities.

The officers and employees of the Manager devote as much time to us as the Manager deems appropriate. However, these officers and employees may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among us, Sompo International, affiliates of Sompo International and other accounts. During turbulent conditions in the reinsurance industry or other times when we need focused support and assistance from the Manager, Sompo International and entities affiliated with Sompo International will likewise require greater focus and attention, placing the Manager's time and resources in high demand. In this situation, we may not receive the support and assistance we require or would otherwise receive if we were completely internally managed or if the Manager did not act as a manager for other entities. Although we believe the Manager has established appropriate procedures to manage any actual or potential conflicts of interest, these procedures do not provide assurance that such conflicts will be avoided.

**We may not be able to hedge our risk effectively, if at all, which may adversely affect our performance.**

Although we seek to mitigate our loss exposure through a variety of methods, property catastrophe reinsurance risk is inherently unpredictable. It is difficult to predict the timing, frequency and severity of loss events with statistical certainty or estimate the amount of loss any given occurrence will generate. It is not possible to completely eliminate our exposure to unforecasted or unpredictable events and, to the extent that losses from such risks occur, our financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

In the reinsurance market, hedging refers to the process of reducing the risk assumed by the reinsurer by employing various insurance-linked securities or otherwise. We may, but are not obligated to, hedge our assumed risks. The success of our hedging strategy, if any, will depend, in part, upon the Manager's ability to assess correctly the degree of correlation between the performance of the instruments used in the hedging strategy and the performance of the contracts being hedged. Since the characteristics of hedging instruments may change as markets change or time passes, the success of our hedging strategy, if any, will also be subject to the Manager's ability to continually recalculate, readjust and execute hedges in an efficient and timely manner. While we may enter into hedging transactions in order to reduce risk, hedging transactions may result in a poorer overall performance than if we had not engaged in hedging transactions. For a variety of reasons, the Manager may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between the hedging instruments utilized and the portfolio holdings being hedged. Such an imperfect correlation may prevent us from achieving the intended hedge or expose us to risk of loss. The successful utilization of hedging and risk management transactions requires skills complementary to those needed in the selection of our portfolio. We cannot assure you that the Manager can hedge our risk effectively or that the hedging strategy that it does employ, if any, will be effective.

**Part of the Manager's compensation is calculated by reference to our performance, which may create an incentive for the Manager to pursue a riskier or more speculative strategy.**

The Manager's compensation is, in part, calculated by reference to our performance. In particular, the Performance Fee payable to the Manager under the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement may create an incentive for the Manager to pursue a riskier or more speculative strategy than would be the case in the absence of the Performance Fees. Pursuing this riskier or more speculative strategy may result in losses that could adversely affect our business.

Neither the Investment Management Agreement nor the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement was negotiated between unaffiliated third-parties, and these agreements may not be as favorable to us as if they had been negotiated with an unaffiliated third-party and may be costly and difficult to terminate.

The Investment Management Agreement that we have entered into with the Manager was negotiated between related parties, and although approved by the Board, its terms, including fees payable, may not be as favorable to us as if this agreement had been negotiated with an unaffiliated third-party. Various potential and actual conflicts of interest may arise from the activities of the Manager by virtue of the fact that the Manager is controlled by Somp International.

Similarly, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement that we and Blue Capital Re have entered into with the Manager was negotiated between related parties, and although approved by the Board, its terms, including fees payable, may not be as favorable to us as if it had been negotiated with an unaffiliated third-party. Various potential and actual conflicts of interest may arise from the activities of the Manager by virtue of the fact that the Manager is controlled by Somp International. The Manager does not assume any responsibility other than provision of the services called for under the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.

We generally may not terminate either the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement other than at three year intervals, whether or not the Manager's performance is satisfactory, and under certain circumstances we will have to pay a termination fee if either the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement is terminated or not renewed. We may not amend or modify any provision of either the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement without the prior written consent of the Manager.

Under both the terms of the Investment Management Agreement and the terms of the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, the Manager (and any person to whom the Manager has delegated or sub-contracted any of its functions) will not be liable for any losses except to the extent such losses are determined to be the direct result of an act or omission of the Manager that constitutes gross negligence, fraud, dishonesty or willful misconduct of the Manager.

In addition, we generally must indemnify the Manager and its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and permitted assigns for, from and against losses: (i) arising out of or relating to any demand, charge or claim in respect of acts, omissions, transactions, duties, obligations or responsibilities; or (ii) arising out of any acts or omissions by us arising out of the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, as applicable, of the Manager and its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and permitted assigns.

**As a Bermuda company, we may be unable to attract and retain employees.**

We do not have any employees of our own. If we were to hire any employees in the future, they would likely be employed in Bermuda. We also rely on services from other Bermuda companies, including the Manager. It may be difficult for us or the Manager to attract and retain experienced personnel in Bermuda, particularly if we are unable to secure Bermuda work permits for our personnel or if the Manager's personnel are unable to secure Bermuda work permits. In addition, Bermuda is a highly competitive location for qualified staff, especially in the reinsurance and insurance industry, making it harder to attract and retain employees. As our success depends on our, and the Manager's, ability to hire and retain personnel, any future difficulties in hiring or retaining personnel in Bermuda or elsewhere could adversely affect our business.

**The Company is dependent upon dividends and distributions from its subsidiaries, and it may be unable to distribute dividends to its shareholders to the extent it does not receive such amounts from its subsidiaries.**

The Company has no operations of its own and relies on dividends and distributions from its subsidiaries to pay its operating expenses, amounts owed under the 2016 Credit Facility and dividends to its shareholders. Furthermore, Blue Capital Re is regulated by the BMA, and the ability of Blue Capital Re to pay dividends and make distributions to the Company is limited under Bermuda law and regulations.

The Companies Act also limits the Company's, Blue Capital Re's and Blue Capital Re ILS' ability to pay dividends and make distributions to their respective shareholders. None of the Company, Blue Capital Re or Blue Capital Re ILS is permitted to declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus, if it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or if the realizable value of its assets would be less than its liabilities. See "*Regulation and Capital Requirements*" for more information.

**The Company cannot assure you that it will declare or pay future dividends on its Common Shares or repurchase its Common Shares.**

Although the Company intends to distribute a minimum of 90% of its annual Distributable Income to shareholders, it cannot assure you that it will declare or pay any dividends at this level or at all or repurchase any Common Shares. Any determination to declare or pay future dividends to the Company's shareholders or repurchase Common Shares will be at the discretion of the Board and will depend on a variety of factors, including: (i) the Company's financial condition, liquidity, results of operations (including its ability to generate cash flow in excess of its expenses and its expected or actual net income) and collateral and capital requirements; (ii) general business conditions; (iii) legal, tax and regulatory limitations; (iv) contractual prohibitions and other restrictions; and (v) any other factors that the Board deems relevant.

**Operational risks, including the risk of fraud and any errors and omissions, are inherent in our business and could have a material adverse impact on our business or results of operations.**

Operational risks that are inherent in our business can result in financial losses, including those resulting from fraud or errors and omissions by any employees or by our third-party service providers, including the Manager. Although we believe that we have established appropriate controls and mitigation procedures to prevent significant fraud, errors and omissions and other potential irregularities from occurring, these controls and procedures do not provide absolute assurance as to the absence and mitigation of these risks.

**Technology breaches or failures, including, but not limited to, those resulting from a malicious cyber attack on us, the Manager or our third-party service providers, could disrupt or otherwise negatively impact our business.**

We, the Manager and our third-party service providers rely on information technology systems to process, transmit, store and protect the electronic information, financial data and proprietary models that are critical to our business. Furthermore, a significant portion of the communications between us, the Manager and our third-party service providers depends upon information technology and electronic information exchange. The information technology systems of the Manager and our third-party service providers are vulnerable to data breaches, interruptions or failures due to events that may be beyond their

control, including, but not limited to, natural and man-made disasters, theft, terrorist attacks, computer viruses, hackers and general technology failures.

Any information technology systems that we may develop in the future would also be vulnerable to these same risks. Despite safeguards we and our service providers may take to protect the information systems that we rely on, disruptions to and breaches of such information technology systems are possible and may negatively impact our business, including our reputation in the insurance and reinsurance marketplace.

It is possible that insurance policies we have in place would not entirely protect us in the event that we were to experience a breach, interruption or widespread failure of the information technology systems we rely on. Furthermore, we have not secured insurance coverage designed to specifically protect us from an economic loss resulting from such an event.

Although we have never experienced any known or threatened cases involving unauthorized access to the information technology systems we rely on or unauthorized appropriation of our data contained within such systems, we cannot assure you that such technology breaches will not occur in the future.

**We cannot assure you that we will attain our financial goals.**

Our business and results of operations are subject to uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. As a result, we cannot assure you that we will attain our financial goals. Failure to achieve our financial goals may make an investment in our Common Shares unattractive to some investors and may cause our Common Shares to trade at lower prices than those of comparable companies that successfully attain their financial goals.

We primarily enter into fully-collateralized reinsurance contracts and, as a result, our capacity for entering into reinsurance contracts or other investments is limited by our equity capital, and we are only able to redeploy that capital in future periods after it is released from prior collateral trust accounts.

Blue Capital Re is not currently, and may never become, a rated reinsurer, nor does it intend to obtain financial strength ratings. As a result, the reinsurance contracts that Blue Capital Re assumes are required to be fully-collateralized. The requirement to post cash collateral in connection with the various insurance contracts that we enter into limits our ability to enter into a large number of insurance contracts or pursue other opportunities. Furthermore, our ability to redeploy our capital annually can be impacted if the release of our collateral is not agreed to by our counterparties or if a loss event occurs, in which case the collateral pledged against the affected contract will not be available for redeployment until the loss is cleared. In addition, if our equity capital decreases over time, as a result of losses, expenses or other factors, we will be even more restricted in the number of contracts we can enter into and other opportunities we can pursue. As a result, our portfolio of insurance-linked contracts and other investments may be significantly less diverse than those of Sompo International or other reinsurance companies.

**Some of the insurance-linked securities in which we may transact business have limited or no secondary markets, and this illiquidity may require us to realize assets below fair value.**

There may not be an active market for some of the insurance-linked securities in which we may transact business, such as catastrophe bonds and industry loss warranties. As a result, it may require substantial time or may be difficult to sell any of these securities at fair value, and we may only be able to sell these securities below fair value.

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

Unanticipated developments in accounting practices may require us to incur considerable additional expenses to comply with such developments, particularly if it is 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 but may affect the calculation of net income, net equity, and other relevant financial statement line items.

**For as long as we are a smaller reporting company, we will not be required to comply with certain reporting requirements that apply to other public companies.**

We are a smaller reporting company, as defined in Item 10(f) of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act. We have taken advantage of, and we plan in future filings with the SEC to continue to take advantage of, certain scaled disclosure requirements and financial reporting requirements that are available to public companies that qualify as a smaller reporting company, under Regulation S-K and Regulation S-X. We do not know if some investors will find our Common Shares less attractive as a result of our taking advantage of certain of these exemptions. The result may be a less active trading market for our Common Shares and our share price may be more volatile.

We intend to continue to take advantage of these reporting exemptions until we are no longer a smaller reporting company. We will continue to be a smaller reporting company provided that we meet the thresholds set forth by the Securities Act, (i) Public float of less than \$250 million; or (ii) Annual revenues of less than \$100 million and no public float, or public float of less than \$700 million.

**Failure to maintain effective internal controls in accordance with Sarbanes-Oxley could have a material adverse effect on our business and share price.**

As a public company with SEC reporting obligations, we are required to document and test our internal control procedures to satisfy the requirements of Section 404(b) of Sarbanes-Oxley, which require annual assessments by management of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

During the course of our assessment, we may identify deficiencies that we are unable to remediate in a timely manner. Testing and maintaining our internal control over financial reporting may also divert management's attention from other matters that are important to the operation of our business. We may not be able to conclude on an ongoing basis that we have effective internal control over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404(b) of Sarbanes-Oxley. If we conclude that our internal control over financial reporting is not effective, we cannot be certain as to the timing of completion of our evaluation, testing and remediation actions or its effect on our operations because there is presently no precedent available by which to measure compliance adequacy. Moreover, any material weakness or other deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting may impede our ability to file timely and accurate reports with the SEC. Any of the above could cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information or our common share listing on the New York Stock Exchange to be suspended or terminated, which could have a negative effect on the trading price of our shares.

**If we do not meet the continued listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange, our common shares may be delisted.**

If we do not meet the continued listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange, our common shares may be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. The New York Stock Exchange requires us to continue to meet certain continued listing standards, including standards related to the trading price of our common shares, as well as our global market capitalization. We would be considered non-compliant if our average global market capitalization over a consecutive 30 trading-day period is less than \$50,000,000 and, at the same time, our shareholders' equity is less than \$50,000,000. While we are currently in compliance with the New York Stock Exchange's continued listing standards, we may not remain in compliance. If we do not meet the New York Stock Exchange's continued listing standards, the New York Stock Exchange may notify us that we are not in compliance and we may be required to take corrective action to meet the continued listing standards; otherwise our common shares will be delisted from the New York Stock Exchange. A delisting of our common shares from the New York Stock Exchange would reduce the liquidity of, and may adversely affect the market price of and the number of investors willing to hold or acquire, our common shares. In addition, a delisting may cause dividends paid on our common shares to no longer qualify as "qualified dividend income" eligible for preferential tax rates. If our common shares are delisted from the New York Stock Exchange, you may not be able to sell your common shares at or above the price you paid, or at all, and our business may be materially adversely affected, including we may be unable to access the public capital markets.

**Our results of operations may fluctuate significantly from period to period and may not be indicative of our long-term prospects.**

Our results of operations may fluctuate significantly from period to period. These fluctuations result from a variety of factors, including the seasonality of the reinsurance business, the volume and mix of reinsurance products that we write, loss experience on our reinsurance liabilities and our ability to assess and integrate our risk management strategy effectively. In particular, we seek to underwrite products to achieve long-term results. As a result, our short-term results of operations may not be indicative of our long-term prospects.

**If actual claims exceed our reserve for losses and LAE, our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.**

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 LAE incurred with respect to premiums earned on the policies that we write. Loss reserves do not represent an exact calculation of liability. Rather, our loss and LAE reserves are estimates of what we expect the ultimate settlement and administration of claims will cost. These estimates are based upon actuarial and statistical projections and on our assessment of currently available data, as well as estimates of future trends in claims severity and frequency, judicial theories of liability and other factors. Loss reserve estimates are refined continually in an ongoing process as experience develops and claims are reported and settled. Establishing an appropriate level of loss reserves is an inherently uncertain process. Moreover, these uncertainties are greater for companies like us than for those with a longer operating history because we do not yet have an extensive loss history. Because of this uncertainty, it is possible that our reserves at any given time will prove inadequate.

To the extent we determine that actual losses and LAE exceed our expectations and loss reserves recorded in our financial statements, we will be required to increase our reserve for losses and LAE. This could cause a material reduction in our profitability and capital.

**We are subject to loss settlements made by ceding companies and fronting carriers, which could materially adversely affect our performance.**

Where Blue Capital Re enters into reinsurance contracts, all loss settlements made by a ceding company, provided they are within the terms of the underlying policies and within the terms of the relevant contract, will be unconditionally binding upon us. While we believe that the ceding companies will settle such claims in good faith, we are bound to accept the claims settlements agreed to by the ceding companies. Under the underlying policies, each ceding company bears the burden of proving that a contractual exclusion applies to a loss, and there may be circumstances where the facts of a loss are insufficient to support the application of an exclusion. In such circumstances, we assume such losses under the reinsured policies, which could materially adversely affect our performance.

**Operational risks, including systems or human failures, are inherent in business, including ours, and could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.**

We are subject to operational risks including fraud, employee errors, failure to document transactions properly or to obtain proper internal authorization, failure to comply with regulatory requirements or obligations under our agreements, information technology failures, or external events. Losses from these risks may occur from time to time and may be significant. As our business and operations grow more complex, we are exposed to more risk in these areas.

The Manager's modeling, underwriting and information technology systems are critical to our success. Moreover, their proprietary technology and application systems have been an important part of our underwriting strategy and our ability to compete successfully. They have also licensed certain systems and data from third parties. We cannot be certain that they will have access to these, or comparable, service providers, or that our information technology or application systems will continue to operate as intended. While we and our Manager has implemented disaster recovery and other business continuity plans, a defect or failure in our internal controls or information technology systems could result in reduced or delayed revenue growth, higher than expected losses, management distraction, or harm to our operations and/or our reputation. We believe appropriate controls and mitigation procedures are in place to prevent significant risk of defect in our internal controls and information technology systems, but internal controls provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance as to the absence of errors or irregularities and any ineffectiveness of such controls and procedures could have a material adverse effect on our business.

**Our success depends on our ability to raise additional capital in the future, which we may not be able to do successfully or on favorable terms.**

The success of our business depends on raising sufficient capital to use in writing additional reinsurance and over which we can spread our costs. Unless we are able to write additional reinsurance and spread our costs over additional capital, we may not be profitable at all or our profitability may be adversely affected. We cannot estimate with any certainty how much additional capital we may need to be profitable.

Any new debt, equity or hybrid financial instruments issued might contain terms and conditions that are unfavorable to our existing shareholders. Any new issuances of equity or hybrid securities could include the issuance of securities with rights, preferences and privileges that are senior or otherwise superior to those of our Common Shares. Any new issuance could be

dilutive to our existing shareholders or cause the value of our Common Shares to decline. Any new debt may substantially increase our leverage, could expose us to an increased risk of loss and may contain terms that materially restrict our operations, including our ability to distribute cash to our shareholders. Additional capital raised through the issuance of debt may result in creditors having rights, preferences and privileges senior or otherwise superior to those of an existing shareholder. In addition, if we cannot obtain adequate capital on favorable terms, or at all, our business could be adversely affected.

## LEGAL AND REGULATORY RISKS

### **Recent or future legislation may decrease the demand for our property catastrophe reinsurance products and adversely affect our business and results of operations.**

It is possible that U.S. states, particularly those with Atlantic or Gulf Coast exposures, may enact new or expanded legislation establishing further state involvement in providing or governing the reinsurance of catastrophe exposed risks, or may otherwise enact legislation, that might further diminish aggregate private market demand for our products. Alternatively, legislation adversely impacting the private markets could be enacted on a regional or at the Federal level. Moreover, we believe that numerous modeled potential catastrophes could exceed the actual or politically acceptable bonded capacity of one or more of the catastrophe funds established by U.S. states, which could lead either to a severe dislocation or the necessity of Federal intervention in the markets of one or more of those states, either of which would adversely impact the private reinsurance industry.

### **The regulatory system under which we operate, and potential changes thereto, including heightened scrutiny of issues and practices in the insurance industry could have a material adverse effect on our business.**

The laws and regulations under which we operate could be revised in a manner materially adverse to the way in which we conduct our business.

The reinsurance regulatory framework continues to be subject to increased scrutiny in many jurisdictions, including the U.S. and various states within the U.S. It is possible such scrutiny, such as the expansion of the regulatory scope of the U.S. Federal Insurance Office, the repeal of the insurance company antitrust exemption under the McCarran Ferguson Act or the expansion of the European Union Solvency II requirements, could include us and it is also possible that investigations or related regulatory developments could mandate or otherwise give rise to changes in industry practices in a fashion that increases our costs or requires us to alter how we conduct our business. In addition, if our Bermuda reinsurance operations become subject to the insurance laws of any state in the U.S., we could face inquiries or challenges to the future operations of these companies.

Blue Capital Re may not be able to obtain or maintain necessary licenses, permits, authorizations or accreditations, or may be able to do so only at great cost. In addition, we may not be able to comply fully with, or obtain appropriate exemptions from, the wide variety of laws and regulations applicable to reinsurance companies or holding companies. Failure to comply with or to obtain appropriate exemptions under any applicable laws could result in restrictions on our ability to do business in one or more of the jurisdictions in which we operate and fines and other sanctions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Compliance with applicable laws and regulations is time consuming and personnel-intensive, and changes in these laws and regulations may impact the operations of our insurance and non-insurance subsidiaries and ultimately could impact our financial condition as well. In addition, we could be adversely affected if a regulatory authority believed we had failed to comply with applicable law or regulation. Despite our efforts to maintain effective compliance procedures, there is a risk that applicable laws and regulations may be unclear, subject to multiple interpretations, under development or may conflict with one another, that regulators may revise their previous guidance or that courts overturn previous rulings, or that we could otherwise fail to meet the applicable standards.

### **Regulation may restrict our ability to operate and may restrict the ability of other reinsurers with which we do business to operate, which may adversely affect our ability to execute our strategy.**

Reinsurance operations are subject to extensive regulation. Governmental agencies have broad administrative power to regulate many aspects of the reinsurance business, which may include premium rates, marketing practices, advertising, policy forms and capital adequacy. These governmental agencies are concerned primarily with the protection of policyholders to the exclusion of other constituencies, including shareholders of insurers and reinsurers. Insurance laws and regulations can impose restrictions on the amount and type of investments, prescribe solvency standards that must be met and maintained, and require the maintenance of reserves. Changes in laws and regulations may restrict our ability to operate our current business or may



have a material adverse effect upon our results of operations, cash flows or financial condition. Unexpected events, such as natural and man-made disasters or terrorist attacks, could lead to government intervention that affects the insurance and reinsurance markets. It may be difficult for us or the other reinsurers with which we do business to predict the exact nature, timing or scope of possible governmental initiatives. Governmental regulation and intervention could adversely affect our business and the business of other reinsurers with which we do business by:

- providing insurance and reinsurance capacity in markets and to consumers that we or the reinsurers with which we do business target;
- requiring us or the ceding companies with which we do business to participate in industry pools and guaranty associations;
- expanding the scope of coverage under existing policies;
- regulating the terms of insurance and reinsurance policies; or
- disproportionately benefiting the companies of one country over those of another.

Our industry is also affected by political, judicial and legal developments that may create new and expanded theories of liability. These changes may result in delays or cancellations of products and services by insurers and reinsurers, which could adversely affect us or the ceding companies with which we do business. If, as a result of governmental regulation or intervention, the ceding companies with which we do business, including Blue Water Re and Somp International, are adversely affected, this may limit our opportunity to do business with these reinsurers, including by way of writing retrocessional policies.

We are not currently subject to group supervision, but the BMA may exercise its authority to act as group supervisor in the future if we form overseas entities. We are not planning on forming overseas entities in the foreseeable future. See "*Regulation and Capital Requirements*" contained in Item 1 herein for more information.

#### **Solvency II could adversely impact our financial results and operations.**

Solvency II, a European Union directive concerning capital adequacy, risk management and regulatory reporting for insurers, which was adopted by the European Parliament in April of 2009, and which came into effect on January 1, 2016, may adversely affect our reinsurance business. We continue to monitor the ongoing legislative and regulatory steps following adoption of Solvency II and Bermuda gaining full Solvency II equivalence. The principles, standards and requirements of Solvency II may, directly or indirectly, impact the future supervision of our operating subsidiaries.

#### **Blue Capital Re is subject to regulation that may make it more difficult to operate our business.**

Our subsidiary, Blue Capital Re, is registered as a Class 3A insurer. As a result, it is subject to regulation and supervision in Bermuda. Bermuda insurance statutes and regulations and policies of the BMA require Blue Capital Re to, among other things:

- maintain a fixed level of capital;
- maintain a minimum solvency margin valued at \$1.0 million at all times;
- restrict dividends and distributions;
- obtain prior approval of ownership and transfer of shares;
- maintain a head office in Bermuda;
- maintain a principal office and appoint and maintain a principal representative in Bermuda; and
- provide for the performance of certain periodic examinations of Blue Capital Re and its financial condition.

Furthermore, Blue Capital Re may only enter into contracts of reinsurance that are fully-collateralized and each transaction that it undertakes must be consistent with its original business plan filed with BMA at the time of Blue Capital Re's registration.

These statutes, requirements and regulations may, in effect, restrict our ability to write reinsurance policies, to distribute funds and to pursue our underwriting strategy.

Blue Capital Re is licensed as a reinsurer only in Bermuda, and it does not plan to seek licenses in any other jurisdiction. The suspension or revocation of Blue Capital Re's license to do business as a reinsurance company in Bermuda for any reason would mean that it would not be able to enter into any new reinsurance contracts until the suspension ended or Blue Capital Re

became licensed in another jurisdiction. Any such suspension or revocation of Blue Capital Re's license would negatively impact our reputation in the reinsurance marketplace and could have a material adverse effect on our business.

The process of obtaining licenses can be very time consuming and costly, and we may not be able to become licensed in a jurisdiction other than Bermuda should we choose to do so. The modification of the conduct of our business resulting from our becoming licensed in certain jurisdictions could significantly and negatively affect our business. In addition, our inability to comply with insurance statutes and regulations could significantly and adversely affect our business by limiting our ability to conduct business as well as by subjecting us to penalties and fines.

The BMA could revoke or suspend Blue Capital Re's license in certain circumstances, including circumstances in which: (i) it is shown that false, misleading or inaccurate information has been supplied to the BMA by Blue Capital Re or on its behalf for the purposes of any provision of the Insurance Act; (ii) we have ceased to carry on business; (iii) Blue Capital Re has persistently failed to pay fees due under the Insurance Act; (iv) Blue Capital Re has been shown to have not complied with a condition attached to its registration or with a requirement made of us under the Insurance Act; (v) we are convicted of an offense against a provision of the Insurance Act; (vi) Blue Capital Re is, in the opinion of the BMA, found not to have been carrying on business in accordance with sound insurance principles; or (vii) any of the minimum criteria for registration under the Insurance Act is not or will not have been fulfilled. If the BMA suspended or revoked Blue Capital Re's license, we could lose our exemption under the Investment Company Act.

Any suspension or revocation of Blue Capital Re's reinsurance license would materially impact our ability to do business and implement our business strategy.

**Insurance supervisors in the U.S. or elsewhere may review our activities and assert that we are subject to additional licensing requirements.**

As a Class 3A Bermuda insurer registered under the Insurance Act, Blue Capital Re is subject to regulation and supervision in Bermuda. We do not presently expect that we will be admitted to do business in any jurisdiction other than Bermuda. In general, Bermuda insurance statutes, regulations and the policies of the BMA differ from U.S. insurance statutes and regulations. We cannot assure you that insurance supervisors in the U.S. or elsewhere will not review our activities and assert that we are subject to such jurisdiction's licensing requirements. In addition, we may be subject to indirect regulatory requirements imposed by jurisdictions that may limit our ability to provide reinsurance. For example, our ability to write reinsurance may be subject, in certain cases, to arrangements satisfactory to applicable supervisory bodies, and proposed legislation and regulations may have the effect of imposing additional requirements upon, or restricting the market for, non-U.S. reinsurers such as us.

If in the future we were to become subject to regulation under the laws of any state in the U.S. or the laws of the U.S. or of any other country, we may consider various alternatives to our operations. If we attempt to become licensed in another jurisdiction, for instance, we may not be able to do so and the modification of the conduct of our business or the non-compliance with insurance statutes and regulations could significantly and negatively affect our business.

**Sompo International may not maintain an acceptable financial strength rating, which could result in a significant reduction in the business we write pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement.**

Pursuant to our underwriting guidelines, we may enter into fronting agreements with a rated carrier or, alternatively, we may access fronted business from Sompo International pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement. Under these fronting arrangements, the rated carrier transfers all risks and premiums to us in exchange for a fronting fee.

Ratings have become an increasingly important factor in establishing the competitive position of insurance and reinsurance companies. A fronting company's financial strength rating is subject to periodic review by, and may be revised downward or revoked at the sole discretion of, the applicable rating agency in response to a variety of factors. If Sompo International's financial strength rating is reduced from its current level, it would reduce the attractiveness of one means by which we can access exposure to reinsurance risk from that counterparty. While we and Blue Water Re have been informed by Sompo International that it is not aware of any pending or contemplated ratings downgrade of Sompo International, such a downgrade remains possible and could result in a significant reduction in the number of reinsurance contracts that we are able to write, unless another fronting reinsurer of an acceptable financial strength rating was available to us.

**We are subject to the risk of being treated as an investment company under U.S. federal securities law, which may cause us to fundamentally restructure our business or potentially to cease operations.**

The Investment Company Act contains registration requirements and a pervasive regulatory scheme that applies to companies that fall within the definition of "investment company" under that statute, and that do not have any available exception or exemption. We believe that we have available to us one or more exceptions or exemptions from the definition of investment company, including the exemption that is available to a company organized and regulated as a foreign insurance company (which must be engaged primarily and predominantly in the business of insurance or reinsurance). Although we are engaged primarily and predominantly in the reinsurance business, and we intend to conduct our business on an ongoing basis so that we remain engaged primarily and predominantly in the reinsurance business, our investments in some insurance-related assets may or may not be considered part of the reinsurance business for Investment Company Act purposes, even though we view these investments as part of our reinsurance business. Nonetheless, because our investments in these insurance-related assets are not the primary component of our business, we expect that we will still be engaged primarily and predominantly in the reinsurance business even if these insurance-related assets are not considered part of the reinsurance business for Investment Company Act purposes.

**We are not, and do not intend to become, registered as an investment company under U.S. federal securities law.**

The Investment Company Act regulates certain companies that invest in or trade securities. The Investment Company Act protects investors by, among other things, imposing restrictions on the ability of a registered investment company's affiliates to engage in transactions with the company, and imposing requirements on the capital structure of a registered investment company, the custody of its assets and the composition of its board of directors. We are not registered, and we do not intend to register, as an investment company under the Investment Company Act; therefore, you will not benefit from the protections of the Investment Company Act.

If, as a result of our operations, we were deemed an "investment company," and are not otherwise exempted from the definition, we would either have to seek to register under the Investment Company Act as an investment company or fundamentally restructure our business or cease operations. Since we are organized outside of the U.S., we could not register as an investment company without first applying for and obtaining an order of the SEC permitting us to do so. These orders have been granted very infrequently. Registered investment companies are subject to extensive and restrictive regulation that can adversely affect businesses like ours. Accordingly, if we were to register as an investment company after obtaining an order permitting us to do so, we would not be able to operate our business as we currently conduct it. If we decided not to register under the Investment Company Act or if we were unable to register under the Investment Company Act, we would have to fundamentally restructure our business or cease operations.

If at any time it were established that we had been operating as an investment company in violation of the Investment Company Act, there would be a risk, among other material adverse consequences, that we would be subject to monetary penalties or injunctive relief, or both.

**The referendum vote by the United Kingdom in favor of leaving the European Union could adversely affect our business.**

The United Kingdom held a referendum on June 23, 2016, in which a majority voted for the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union. As a result of this vote, negotiations have commenced to determine the terms of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union, as well as its relationship with the European Union going forward ("Brexit"). Brexit has caused and may continue to cause significant volatility in global stock markets and currency exchange rates, which could increase the volatility of, or reduce the Company's results in particular periods or over time. Higher levels of political and market turmoil could persist until some clarity emerges around the United Kingdom's exit process from the European Union and the impact of Brexit on the economies of the other European countries. The geopolitical impacts of Brexit are unknown and may adversely affect long-term European and global economic growth and forecasts, which could adversely impact the demand for the Company's products. Brexit could also lead to legal uncertainty and differing laws and regulations between the United Kingdom and the European Union. These uncertainties could affect the operations, strategic position or results of brokers, insurers or reinsurers with whom the Company does business. Any of these potential effects of Brexit, and others we cannot anticipate, could adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

## CORPORATE RISKS

### **Sompo International has substantial control over us, which limits your ability to influence corporate matters and may result in conflicts of interest.**

Sompo International currently has a 33.2% interest in the Company and therefore exerts considerable influence over matters presented to our shareholders for approval, including the election of directors and change of control transactions. Sompo International has the right to nominate two out of our five directors (or, if the Board consists of more than five directors, no less than 40% of the total Board seats at any given time), until the later of the date on which: (i) Sompo International sells any of its Common Shares; and (ii) Sompo International owns less than 5% of our Common Shares. This control may delay, deter or prevent acts that would be favored by our other shareholders, as the interests of Sompo International may not always coincide with the interests of our other shareholders. In particular, Sompo International has interests in us by virtue of our contracts with the Manager (see "*Conflicts of Interest*" contained in Item 1 herein for a description of these contracts). Sompo International may seek to cause us to take courses of action that, in its judgment, could enhance its interests or its investment in us, but which might involve risks to our other shareholders or adversely affect us or our other shareholders. In addition, this concentration of share ownership may adversely affect the trading price of our Common Shares because investors may perceive disadvantages in owning shares in a company with a significant shareholder.

### **Future sales or the possibility of future sales of a substantial amount of our Common Shares may depress the price of our shares.**

Sompo International currently owns 2,914,269 Common Shares, representing 33.2% of our total outstanding Common Shares. These Common Shares may be sold into the market in accordance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act. In addition, Sompo International has the ability to require us to register the Common Shares it holds pursuant to a shareholder and registration rights agreement.

We cannot predict the size of future issuances or sales of our Common Shares or the effect, if any, that future issuances and sales of our Common Shares will have on the market price of our Common Shares. Issuances or sales of substantial amounts of our Common Shares, or the perception that such issuances or sales could occur, may adversely affect the prevailing market price for our Common Shares.

### **Our bye-laws and provisions of Bermuda law may impede or discourage a change of control transaction, which could deprive our investors of the opportunity to receive a premium for their Common Shares.**

Our bye-laws and provisions of Bermuda law to which we are subject contain provisions that could discourage, delay or prevent "change of control" transactions or changes in the Board and management that certain shareholders may view as beneficial or advantageous. These provisions include, among others:

- the Board is divided into three classes, with each class serving for a staggered three-year term, which prevents shareholders from electing an entirely new board of directors at an annual meeting;
- the Board has the authority to issue preferred shares without shareholder approval, which could be used to dilute the ownership of a potential hostile acquirer;
- the Board may decline to record the transfer of any Common Shares on our share register if they believe that: (i) registration of the transfer is required under any federal or state securities law or under the laws of any other jurisdiction and the registration has not yet been effected; or (ii) such transfer is likely to expose us to adverse tax consequences or materially adverse legal or regulatory treatment in any jurisdiction;
- our shareholders may only remove directors for cause, or for other reasons set out in our bye-laws (e.g., unsound mind);
- there are advance notice requirements for shareholders with respect to director nominations and actions to be taken at annual meetings; and
- under Bermuda law, for so long as Blue Capital Re is registered under the Insurance Act, the BMA may object to a person holding more than 10% of our Common Shares if it appears to the BMA that the person is not or is no longer fit and proper to be such a holder.

The foregoing factors, as well as the significant share ownership by Sompo International, could impede a merger, takeover or other business combination, which could reduce the market value of our Common Shares.

**A shareholder may be required to sell its shares of Blue Capital.**

Under our bye-laws and subject to Bermuda law, we have the option, but not the obligation, to require a shareholder to sell some or all of its Common Shares to us at fair market value (which would be based upon the average closing price of our shares as defined under our bye-laws) if the Board reasonably determines, in good faith based on an opinion of counsel, that share ownership, directly, indirectly or constructively, by such shareholder is likely to result in adverse tax, regulatory or legal consequences to us, certain of our other shareholders or our subsidiaries.

**There are regulatory limitations on the ownership and transfer of our Common Shares.**

The Insurance Act requires that, in respect of a company whose shares are listed on a stock exchange recognized by the BMA, any person who becomes (or ceases to be) a holder of at least 10%, 20%, 33% or 50% of the shares of an insurance or reinsurance company or its parent must notify the BMA in writing within 45 days of becoming such a holder or 30 days from the date they have knowledge of having such a holding, whichever is later. This requirement will apply to us as long as our shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the Bermuda Stock Exchange. If our Common Shares are no longer listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the Bermuda Stock Exchange or another exchange recognized by the BMA, the BMA may, by written notice, object to a person holding 10%, 20%, 33% or 50% of our Common Shares if it appears to the BMA that the person is not fit and proper to be such a holder. The BMA may require the holder to reduce its shareholding in us and may direct, among other things, that the voting rights attaching to its shares shall not be exercisable. A person that does not comply with such a notice or direction from the BMA will be guilty of an offense.

Blue Capital Re is also required to notify the BMA in writing in the event any person has become or has ceased to be a Controller or an officer of it, an officer being a director, chief executive or senior executive performing duties of underwriting, actuarial, risk management, compliance, internal audit, finance or investment matters.

Except in connection with the settlement of trades or transactions entered into through the facilities of the New York Stock Exchange and the Bermuda Stock Exchange, the Board may generally require any shareholder or any person proposing to acquire our Common Shares to provide the information required under our bye-laws. If any such shareholder or proposed acquirer does not provide such information, or if the Board has reason to believe that any certification or other information provided pursuant to any such request is inaccurate or incomplete, the Board may decline to register any transfer or to effect any issuance or purchase of Common Shares to which such request is related.

**U.S. persons who own our Common Shares may have more difficulty in protecting their interests than U.S. persons who are shareholders of a U.S. corporation.**

The Companies Act, which applies to Blue Capital, differs in certain material respects from laws generally applicable to U.S. corporations and their shareholders. These differences include the manner in which directors must disclose transactions in which they have an interest, the rights of shareholders to bring class action and derivative lawsuits and the scope of indemnification available to directors and officers.

**Bermuda law differs from the laws in effect in the U.S. and may afford less protection to holders of our shares.**

We are organized under the laws of Bermuda. As a result, our corporate affairs are governed by the Companies Act, which differs in some material respects from laws typically applicable to U.S. corporations and shareholders, including the provisions relating to interested directors, amalgamations, mergers and acquisitions, takeovers, shareholder lawsuits and indemnification of directors. Generally, the duties of directors and officers of a Bermuda company are owed to the company only. Shareholders of Bermuda companies typically do not have rights to take action against directors or officers of the company and may only do so in limited circumstances. Class actions are not available under Bermuda law. The circumstances in which derivative actions may be available under Bermuda law are substantially more proscribed and less clear than they would be to shareholders of U.S. corporations. The Bermuda courts, however, would ordinarily be expected to permit a shareholder to commence an action in the name of a company to remedy a wrong to the company where the act complained of is alleged to be beyond the corporate power of the company or illegal, or would result in the violation of the company's memorandum of association or bye-laws. Furthermore, consideration would be given by a Bermuda court to acts that are alleged to constitute a fraud against the minority shareholders or, for instance, where an act requires the approval of a greater percentage of the company's shareholders than that which actually approved it.

When the affairs of a company are being conducted in a manner that is oppressive or prejudicial to the interests of some shareholders, one or more shareholders may apply to the Supreme Court of Bermuda, which may make such order as it sees fit, including an order regulating the conduct of the company's affairs in the future or ordering the purchase of the shares of

any shareholders by other shareholders or by the company. Additionally, under our bye-laws and as permitted by Bermuda law, each shareholder has waived any claim or right of action against our directors or officers for any action taken by directors or officers in the performance of their duties, except for actions involving fraud or dishonesty. In addition, the rights of holders of our Common Shares and the fiduciary responsibilities of our directors under Bermuda law are not as clearly established as under statutes or judicial precedent in existence in jurisdictions in the U.S., particularly the State of Delaware. Therefore, holders of our Common Shares may have more difficulty protecting their interests than would shareholders of a corporation incorporated in a jurisdiction within the U.S.

**Anti-takeover provisions in our bye-laws could impede an attempt to replace or remove our directors, which could diminish the value of our Common Shares.**

Blue Capital's bye-laws contain provisions that may make it more difficult for shareholders to replace directors even if the shareholders consider it beneficial to do so. In addition, these provisions could delay or prevent a change of control that a shareholder might consider favorable. Even in the absence of an attempt to effect a change in management or a takeover attempt, these provisions may adversely affect the prevailing market price of our Common Shares if they are viewed as discouraging changes in management and takeover attempts in the future.

**The price of our Common Shares may fluctuate significantly and you could lose all or part of your investment.**

Volatility in the market price of our Common Shares may prevent you from being able to sell your Common Shares at or above the price you paid for your Common Shares. The market price for our Common Shares can fluctuate significantly for various reasons, including:

- catastrophes that may specifically impact us or are perceived by investors as impacting the reinsurance market in general;
- the financial condition, financial performance and prospects of the Company, the Manager or Sompo International;
- our quarterly or annual earnings or those of other companies in our industry;
- exposure to capital market risks related to the performance of insurance-linked investments;
- our capital management policy and whether we repurchase Common Shares or dividends on our Common Shares have been, and are likely to be, declared and paid from time to time;
- actual or anticipated growth rates relative to our competitors;
- perceptions of the investment opportunity associated with our Common Shares relative to other investment alternatives, including investment opportunities in Sompo International or affiliates of Sompo International;
- speculation by the investment community regarding our business;
- future announcements concerning our business or our competitors' businesses;
- the public's reaction to our press releases, other public announcements and filings with the SEC;
- market and industry perception of our success, or lack thereof, in pursuing our strategy;
- strategic actions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions, restructurings, significant contracts or joint ventures;
- changes in government regulation;
- potential characterization of us as an investment company, a controlled foreign corporation or a passive foreign investment company;
- general market, economic and political conditions;
- changes in conditions or trends in our industry, geographies or customers;
- arrival and departure of key personnel of the Company, the Manager or Sompo International;
- sales of our Common Shares by us, Sompo International, our directors or members of our management team; and
- adverse resolution of litigation against us.

In addition, stock markets, including the New York Stock Exchange and the Bermuda Stock Exchange, have experienced price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities issued by many companies, including companies in our industry. In the past, some companies that have had volatile market prices for their securities have been subject to class action or derivative lawsuits. The filing of a lawsuit against us, regardless of the outcome,

could have a negative effect on our business, as it could result in substantial legal costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources.

As a result of the factors described above, investors in our Common Shares may not be able to resell their Common Shares at or above the price they paid or may not be able to resell them at all. These market and industry factors may materially reduce the market price of our Common Shares, regardless of our operating performance. In addition, price volatility may be greater if the public float and the trading volume of our Common Shares are low.

**It may be difficult to enforce service of process and enforcement of judgments against us and our officers and directors.**

Blue Capital is a Bermuda company and certain of its officers and directors are residents of jurisdictions outside the United States. A substantial portion of its assets and its officers and directors, at any one time, are or may be located in jurisdictions outside the United States. It may be difficult for investors to effect service of process within the United States on our directors and officers who reside outside the United States or to enforce against us or our directors and officers judgments of U.S. courts predicated upon civil liability provisions of the U.S. 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 U.S. 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.

In addition to and irrespective of jurisdictional issues, the Bermuda courts will not enforce a United States federal securities law that is either penal or contrary to Bermuda 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 entertained by a Bermuda court. Consequently, certain remedies available under the laws of U.S. jurisdictions, including certain remedies under U.S. federal securities laws, may not be available under Bermuda law or enforceable in a Bermuda court, as they may be contrary to Bermuda public policy. Further, no claim may be brought in Bermuda against us or our directors and officers in the first instance for violation of U.S. federal securities laws because these laws have no extraterritorial jurisdiction 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.

## TAXATION RISKS

**We and our subsidiaries may be subject to U.S. tax which may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.**

The Company and its subsidiaries are Bermuda companies. Each intends to operate in such a manner that none will be deemed to be engaged in the conduct of a trade or business within the United States. However, whether business is being conducted in the United States is an inherently factual determination. Because definitive identification of activities which constitute being engaged in a trade or business in the United States is not provided by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), regulations or court decisions, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") might successfully contend that any of the Company and/or its subsidiaries are/is engaged in a trade or business in the United States. A non-U.S. corporation deemed to be so engaged would be subject to U.S. income tax at regular corporate rates, as well as the branch profits tax, on its income that is treated as effectively connected with the conduct of that trade or business unless the corporation is entitled to relief under the permanent establishment provision of an applicable tax treaty, as discussed below. Such income tax, if imposed, would be based on effectively connected income computed in a manner generally analogous to that applied to the income of a U.S. corporation, except that a non-U.S. corporation is generally entitled to deductions and credits only if it timely files a U.S. federal income tax return. Each of the Company and Blue Capital Re file protective U.S. federal income tax returns on a timely basis in order to preserve the right to claim income tax deductions and credits if it is ever determined that it is subject to U.S. federal income tax. The highest marginal federal income tax rates as of 2019 are 21% for a corporation's effectively connected income and 30% for the branch profits tax. If Blue Capital Re were to qualify for benefits under the tax treaty between the United States and Bermuda (the "Bermuda treaty"), Blue Capital Re would not be subject to U.S. income tax on any business profits of its insurance enterprise found to be effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business, unless that trade or business is conducted through a permanent establishment in the United States. Blue Capital Re does not have sufficient information about its ownership to determine whether it would be entitled to the benefits of the Bermuda Treaty. However, based on the information that it does possess, Blue Capital Re believes that it may not be entitled to the benefits of the Bermuda Treaty. If the Company and/or its subsidiaries were subject to U.S. federal income tax, our financial condition and results of operations, as well as an investment in our Common Shares, could be materially adversely affected.

**U.S. persons who hold our Common Shares may be subject to U.S. income taxation at ordinary income tax rates on our undistributed earnings and profits under the controlled foreign corporation ("CFC") rules.**

If the Company or any of its subsidiaries were considered a CFC, any "10% U.S. Shareholder" (as defined below) may be subject to current U.S. income taxation at ordinary income tax rates on all or a portion of the Company's or its subsidiaries' undistributed earnings and profits attributable to the Company's insurance and reinsurance income, including underwriting and investment income and other subpart F income. Any gain realized on a sale of our Common Shares by such shareholder may also be taxed as a dividend to the extent of the Company's earnings and profits attributed to such shares during the period that the shareholder held the shares and while the Company was a CFC (with certain adjustments). A foreign corporation is considered a CFC if 10% U.S. Shareholders own (directly, indirectly through foreign entities or constructively pursuant to the application of certain constructive ownership rules) more than 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of voting stock of such foreign corporation, or the total value of all stock of such corporation. For purposes of taking into account insurance income, a CFC also includes a foreign corporation in which more than 25% of the total combined voting power or value of all classes of stock is owned (directly, indirectly through foreign entities or constructively pursuant to the application of certain constructive ownership rules) by 10% U.S. Shareholders, on any day during the taxable year of such corporation, if the gross amount of premiums or other consideration for the reinsurance or the issuing of insurance contracts exceeds 75% of the gross amount of all premiums or other consideration in respect of all risks.

On December 22, 2017, the United States enacted a budget reconciliation act amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "TCJA"). Prior to the enactment of the TCJA, a "10% U.S. Shareholder" was defined as any shareholder that is a U.S. person that owns directly, indirectly or by attribution, 10% or more of the total voting power of the Company. However, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, the TCJA expands the definition of a "10% U.S. Shareholder" to include U.S. persons that own directly, indirectly or by attribution, 10% or more of either the total voting power of the Company or total value of the stock of the Company. TCJA also expands the application of the constructive ownership rules that are applied for determining whether a U.S. person is a 10% U.S. Shareholder of a foreign corporation. Under prior law, certain ownership attribution rules did not apply so as to treat a U.S. person as owning stock that is owned by a non-U.S. person. TCJA has repealed this limitation. Consequently, under the new attribution rules, Common Shares owned by Endurance Bermuda would be treated as owned by Endurance U.S. Holdings Corp. Accordingly, Endurance U.S. Holdings Corp. would be treated as a 10% U.S. Shareholder for purposes of determining whether Blue Capital Re is a CFC. The Senate Finance Committee suggested, however, that the repeal of the limitation to the ownership attribution rules is not intended to cause a foreign corporation to be treated as a CFC with respect to an unrelated U.S. person, such as an investor for example. Until further guidance is issued by the U.S. Treasury Department or the IRS confirms or otherwise codifies this intent, based on the technical application of the TCJA, we would be treated as a CFC for purposes of taking into account our insurance income. By expanding the constructive ownership rules and the definition of 10% U.S. Shareholder, the TCJA will increase the likelihood that an investor could be treated as a 10% U.S. Shareholder in 2018 and in any subsequent taxable years. Investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the CFC rules to an investment in our Common Shares.

**U.S. persons who hold our Common Shares may be subject to U.S. income taxation on their pro rata share of our related party insurance income ("RPII").**

The CFC rules apply to certain insurance and reinsurance companies that earn RPII. If the RPII rules were to apply to Blue Capital Re, a U.S. person who owns our Common Shares directly, or indirectly through foreign entities, on the last day of the taxable year would be required to include in its income for U.S. federal income tax purposes the shareholder's pro rata share of Blue Capital Re's RPII for the entire taxable year, determined as if such RPII were distributed proportionately to such U.S. shareholders at that date regardless of whether such income is distributed. In addition, any RPII that is to be included in the income of a U.S. tax-exempt organization would be treated as unrelated business taxable income. Although Blue Capital Re intends to generally operate in a manner so as to qualify for certain exceptions to the RPII rules, there can be no assurance that these exceptions will be available. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that U.S. persons who own our Common Shares will not be required to recognize gross income inclusions attributable to RPII.

**U.S. persons who dispose of our Common Shares may be subject to U.S. federal income taxation at the rates applicable to ordinary income.**

Section 1248 of the Code, in conjunction with the RPII rules, provides that if a shareholder who is a U.S. person disposes of shares in a foreign insurance corporation that has RPII and in which U.S. persons collectively own 25% or more of the shares, by vote or value, at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition any gain from the disposition will generally be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the shareholder's share of the corporation's undistributed earnings and



profits that were accumulated during the period that the shareholder owned the shares (possibly whether or not such earnings and profits are attributable to RPII). In addition, such a shareholder will be required to comply with certain reporting requirements, regardless of the amount of shares owned by the shareholder. These rules should not apply to dispositions of our Common Shares because the Company is not itself directly engaged in the insurance business. The RPII provisions, however, have not been interpreted by the courts or the U.S. Treasury Department, and regulations interpreting the RPII provisions of the Code exist only in proposed form. Accordingly, the IRS might interpret the proposed regulations in a different manner and the applicable proposed regulations may be promulgated in final form in a manner that would cause these rules to apply to dispositions of our Common Shares.

**U.S. persons who hold our Common Shares will be subject to adverse tax consequences if we are considered a passive foreign investment company ("PFIC") for U.S. federal income tax purposes.**

A foreign corporation will generally be considered a PFIC during a given year if (i) 75% or more of its gross income constitutes "passive income" or (ii) 50% or more of its assets produce passive income. For purposes of the PFIC determination, passive income generally includes interest, dividends, annuities and other investment income. The PFIC statutory provisions contain an express exception for income derived in the active conduct of an insurance business. The PFIC statutory provisions also contain a look-through rule stating that, for purposes of determining whether a foreign corporation is a PFIC, such foreign corporation shall be treated as if it received directly its proportionate share of the income and as if it held its proportionate share of the assets of any other corporation in which it owns at least 25% by value of the shares. While no explicit guidance is provided by the statutory language, under this look-through rule the Company should be deemed to own the assets and to have received the income of Blue Capital Re directly for purposes of determining whether it qualifies for the insurance business exception.

The TCJA limited the exception applicable to corporations engaged in the active conduct of an insurance business by requiring that the applicable insurance liabilities of such corporation exceed 25 percent of its total assets for the exception to apply. It is unclear how liability reserves are measured and taken into account for purposes of determining the applicable insurance liabilities. We currently meet the 25% test based on our insurance liability reserves as at December 31, 2018 and therefore we believe we should not be considered a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes for the year then ended. Due to the uncertainties and ambiguities in the application of the PFIC provisions, however, there can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with our belief regarding PFIC status. Moreover, in the future if we experience a period with a lower incidence of loss events impacting our portfolio of business and in which our current estimates for insurance liabilities are settled, it is possible that we will no longer meet the 25% test. If a corporation fails the 25% test, the TCJA provides an alternative test which permits a U.S. person that owns stock in such corporation to elect to treat such stock as stock of a qualifying insurance corporation if (A) the corporation's applicable insurance liabilities are at least equal to 10% of its total assets and (B) under Treasury Regulations to be issued, based on the applicable facts and circumstances, (i) the corporation is predominantly engaged in an insurance business and (ii) the failure to satisfy the 25% test is due solely to runoff-related or rating-related circumstances involving such insurance business. Since there are no current Treasury Regulations interpreting this alternative test, it is not clear what facts and circumstances would be required to satisfy the test or the procedures required to make the election. Consequently, although there are ambiguities in the application of the relevant provisions of the TCJA and the PFIC provisions in general, it appears that under current law it is possible that we could be considered a PFIC in future taxable years.

If we were considered a PFIC, it could have material adverse tax consequences for an investor that is subject to U.S. federal income taxation, including subjecting the investor to a greater tax liability than might otherwise apply or subjecting the investor to tax on amounts in advance of when tax would otherwise be imposed. Such investor may be able to mitigate certain of these adverse tax consequences if it is able to make a timely qualified electing fund election (a "QEF election") or a mark-to-market election with respect to our Common Shares. A QEF election may only be made by a holder of our Common Shares if, *inter alia*, the Company provides such holder with certain information. It is uncertain whether the Company would be able to provide investors with the information necessary to make a QEF election. In addition, if we were considered a PFIC, dividends paid in respect of our Common Shares would not be eligible for the preferential tax rate applicable to "qualified dividend income" received by certain non-corporate U.S. shareholders. The rules regarding PFICs including the QEF election and mark-to-market election, are complex. Investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the PFIC rules to an investment in our Common Shares.

**Legislative and regulatory action by the U.S. Congress could materially and adversely affect the Company.**

The Company's tax position could be adversely impacted by changes in tax laws, tax treaties or tax regulations or the interpretation or enforcement thereof. Legislative action may be taken by the U.S. Congress which, if ultimately enacted, could, adversely affect the results of our operations and financial condition and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

**The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD") and the European Union ("EU") are considering measures that might increase our taxes and reduce our net income.**

The OECD has published reports and launched a global dialogue among member and non-member countries on measures to limit harmful tax practices. In particular, as a result of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting ("BEPS") project, the OECD and the G20 delivered a package of policies that will allow governments to address the gaps in the international tax system. The BEPS package included four new minimum standards which included the commitment to (i) address harmful tax practices; (ii) to prevent tax treaty shopping; (iii) to ensure country-by-country reporting; and (iv) to improve the effectiveness of cross-border tax dispute resolution.

Bermuda has not been listed in the OECD's periodic progression reports as an uncooperative tax haven jurisdiction because it had previously committed to eliminate harmful tax practices and to embrace international tax standards for transparency, exchange of information and the elimination of any aspects of the regimes for financial and other services that attract business with no substantial domestic activity. Bermuda was reported as being largely compliant with the OECD's international tax standards on transparency and exchange of information in the OECD's 2016 Tax Transparency Report on Progress. Bermuda set up its Tax Information Reporting Portal in June 2017, and it is due to undertake its first automatic exchange of information in June 2018. Other "largely compliant" jurisdictions include Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States. In 2017 Bermuda issued its common reporting standard regulations and country-by-country reporting regulations.

In addition, on July 12, 2016 Council Directive 2016/1164/EU ("ATAD") was adopted which laid down rules against tax avoidance practices that directly affect the functions of the internal market. Member States are required to implement ATAD into domestic law by January 1, 2019 (except in relation to the exit tax rule and the interest restriction rules which in certain circumstances need not be implemented until January 1, 2020 and 2024 respectively). In October 2016 the EU Commission presented its corporate tax reform package in which the Commission proposed that the provisions of the ATAD dealing with hybrid mismatches should be extended to hybrid mismatches with third countries and on May 29, 2017 Council Directive 2017/952/EU ("ATAD II") was adopted. Member States are required to implement ATAD II into domestic law by December 31, 2019.

We are currently not able to provide a definitive view on whether any changes arising from any proposals introduced in connection with the possible new OECD and EU measures will subject us to additional taxes or otherwise affect our operations.

**We may become subject to taxes in Bermuda after March 31, 2035, which may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition.**

The Bermuda Minister of Finance, under the Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Act 1966, as amended, of Bermuda, has given the Company and its subsidiaries an assurance that if any legislation is enacted in Bermuda that would "impose tax computed on profits or income or computed on any capital asset, gain or appreciation, or any tax in the nature of estate duty or inheritance tax, then the imposition" of any such tax will not be applicable to the Company, its subsidiaries or any of their respective operations, shares or other obligations until March 31, 2035. It is possible that after March 31, 2035 we may be subject to Bermuda taxes.

**Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments***

As of the date of this report, we had no unresolved comments from the SEC regarding our periodic or current reports under the Exchange Act.

**Item 2. *Properties***

The Company leases office space from Sompo International in Pembroke, Bermuda, through the Administrative Services Agreement.

**Item 3. *Legal Proceedings***

Blue Capital Re, pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, previously provided for a reinsurance recovery through its participation in an Industry Loss Warranty protection purchased by Blue Water Re. The counterparty to the Industry Loss Warranty disputed the claim for the recovery, which was based upon the size of an insured industry loss calculated based upon third-party data.

In June 2018, Blue Capital Re ILS, together with two other vehicles managed by the Manager, commenced legal proceedings against certain parties relating to the purchase by Blue Capital Re ILS of a parametric insurance product called an Industry Parametric Protection that provided coverage if the sustained wind speed during a hurricane or tropical storm exceeded a pre-selected trigger.

In February 2019, the parties involved in the disputes described above reached an agreement to resolve all matters and withdraw the pending claims. The impact of the settlement has been considered in the determination of recording the Company's best estimate of loss and LAE reserves as of December 31, 2018.

In addition to the disputes described above, Blue Capital Re, as a reinsurer, is subject to litigation and arbitration proceedings in the normal course of its business. Such proceedings often involve reinsurance contract disputes which are typical for the reinsurance industry. Blue Capital Re's estimates of possible losses incurred in connection with such legal proceedings are provided for as "loss and loss adjustment expenses" on its Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss and are included within "loss and loss adjustment expense reserves" on its Consolidated Balance Sheets. We determine whether an estimated loss from a contingency should be accrued by assessing whether a loss is deemed probable and can be reasonably estimated. We assess our potential liability by analyzing our litigation and regulatory matters using available information. We develop our views on estimated losses in consultation with outside counsel handling our defense in these matters, which involves an analysis of potential results, assuming a combination of litigation and settlement strategies. Should developments in any of these matters cause a change in our determination as to an unfavorable outcome and result in the need to recognize a material accrual, or should any of these matters result in a final adverse judgment or be settled for significant amounts, they could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and financial position in the period or periods in which such change in determination, judgment or settlement occurs.

**Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosures***

Not applicable.

**PART II****Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities****Market Information**

Our Common Shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BCRH and the Bermuda Stock Exchange under the symbol BCRH.BH. The quarterly range of the high and low New York Stock Exchange closing prices for our Common Shares during the most recent two fiscal years were as follows:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>2018</b>		
Fourth quarter	\$ 10.46	\$ 5.36
Third quarter	11.65	9.40
Second quarter	12.20	9.70
First quarter	13.15	11.10
<b>2017</b>		
Fourth quarter	\$ 17.80	\$ 12.00
Third quarter	19.95	14.05
Second quarter	19.90	17.95
First quarter	20.65	18.35

**Registered Holders of Common Shares**

As of February 25, 2019, we had 4 registered holders of Common Shares.

**Dividends Declared on Common Shares**

During 2018 and 2017 we declared and paid quarterly dividends of \$0.30 per Common Share during each of the first three quarters. The Company did not pay a special dividend with respect to 2018 or 2017 as a result of the net losses recorded for the years. The aggregate dollar value of all dividends declared with respect to 2018 and 2017 was \$7.9 million and \$7.9 million, respectively. See "Overview" contained in Item 7 herein.

There are restrictions on the payment of dividends to the Company from its regulated operating companies as described under "Regulation and Capital Requirements." Any future determination to pay dividends to holders of Common Shares will, however, be at the discretion of the Board and will be dependent upon many factors, including our results of operations, cash flows, financial position, capital requirements, general business opportunities, legal, tax, regulatory and contractual restrictions.

We generally expect that our dividends will be subject to customary dividend tax treatment in the U.S., but if our total dividends paid during any given calendar year exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits as of the end of such calendar year (determined under U.S. tax principles), a portion of our dividends paid in that year will be treated: (i) first, as a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of a shareholder's tax basis in Common Shares (on a dollar-for-dollar basis); and (ii) subsequently, as capital gain.

**Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans**

The following table provides information, as of December 31, 2018, with respect to our equity compensation plans.

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a)	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (3) (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders (1)	16,892	—	53,443

(1) The Company's 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2013 LTIP"), which was adopted by the Board on September 27, 2013, permits the issuance of up to one percent of the aggregate Common Shares outstanding (at the time of grant) to the Company's directors, future employees and consultants.

Incentive awards that may be granted under the 2013 LTIP include restricted share units ("RSUs"), restricted Common Shares, incentive share options (on a limited basis), non-qualified share options, share appreciation rights, deferred share units, performance compensation awards, performance units, cash incentive awards and other equity-based and equity-related awards.

As of December 31, 2018, there were 16,892 RSUs outstanding under the 2013 LTIP. These RSUs were granted to our directors in 2018, 2017 and 2016 and vest in three equal annual installments based on continuous service, payable in Common Shares at the time of vesting.

**Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities**

The Company did not sell any securities, which are not registered under the Securities Act, within the past two years.

**Issuer Purchases of Common Shares**

The Company did not repurchase any Common Shares during the three month period ended December 31, 2018.

## **Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

Not applicable.

## **Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

### **General**

The following is a discussion and analysis of our results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, and our financial condition as of December 31, 2018 and 2017. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included elsewhere in this report.

This discussion contains forward-looking statements that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs and expectations. These statements are based upon current plans, estimates and projections. Our actual results may differ materially from those projected in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. See "*Forward Looking Statements*" appearing at the beginning of this report and "*Risk Factors*" contained in Item 1A herein.

### **Overview**

We are a Bermuda exempted limited liability company which offers collateralized reinsurance in the property catastrophe market. Our principal objective is to maximize the expected total return for our shareholders, primarily through the payment of dividends, by underwriting a diversified portfolio of short-tail reinsurance contracts and investing in insurance-linked securities with what we believe to be attractive risk and return characteristics. We provide our shareholders with the opportunity to own an alternative asset class whose returns we believe have historically been largely uncorrelated to those of other asset classes, such as global equities, bonds and hedge funds.

Subject to the discretion of the Company's board of directors (the "Board"), the Company intends to continue to distribute through dividends or repurchases of Common Shares a minimum of 90% of its annual Distributable Income to its holders of Common Shares and RSUs. "Distributable Income," a non-GAAP measure, means GAAP net income plus (minus) non-cash expenses (revenues) recorded in net income for the period.

The majority of our property catastrophe business is originated during the key January and June annual renewal periods. We experienced an overall risk adjusted rate increase of approximately 12% on the risks we wrote during the January 2018 renewals and 4.5% during the June 2018 renewals, reflecting the impact of the 2017 loss events and a reversal of pricing declines experienced in recent years.

While good progress was made in 2018 to reduce volatility and improve the balance of our portfolio, adverse development from 2017 events and another active catastrophe year in 2018 masked underlying improvements. These improvements were evident in our current accident year loss ratio for the 2018 year which, while elevated at 94.3%, was significantly improved from the 169.1% achieved for the full year in 2017. Our 2018 portfolio benefited from increased rates, better balance and improved retrocessional protection.

Looking forward, market conditions remain competitive. While loss exposed contracts saw some pricing increases, the January 2019 renewals were relatively flat overall. As a result, we non-renewed several underperforming contracts and focused our capital deployment on quota share contracts which have historically generated better returns with lower volatility. We are closely monitoring market conditions for the upcoming April and June renewal periods where opportunities could emerge as more loss exposed contracts will be up for renewal during those periods.

During 2018, we recorded a net loss of \$28.6 million and declared and paid quarterly dividends of \$0.30 per Common Share and RSU during each of the first three quarters. The aggregate dollar value of all dividends declared with respect to 2018, totaled \$7.9 million.

## Natural Catastrophe Risk Management

We reinsure exposures throughout the world against various natural catastrophe perils. The Manager manages our net exposure to these perils using a combination of industry third-party models, proprietary models, underwriting judgment and purchases of outwards reinsurance and/or derivative instruments.

Our multi-tiered risk management approach focuses on tracking exposed contract limits, estimating the potential net impact of a single natural catastrophe event and simulating our yearly net operating result to reflect an aggregation of modeled underwriting, investment and other risks. The Manager and the Board regularly review the outputs from this process and the Manager routinely seeks to refine and improve our risk management process.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the "Risk Factors" contained in Item 1A herein, in particular the risk factor entitled "Our stated catastrophe and enterprise-wide risk management exposures are based on estimates and judgments which are subject to significant uncertainties."

### Exposure Management

The Manager monitors our net exposure to any one catastrophe loss event in any single zone within certain broadly defined major catastrophe zones at each treaty renewal date. Our last major treaty renewal date was January 1, 2019. On January 1, 2019 our estimated net exposures by zone were in compliance with our underwriting guidelines. Namely, our estimated net exposure from any one catastrophe loss event in any individual zone was at or below 50% of our then-projected shareholders' equity at December 31, 2018.

These broadly defined major catastrophe zones are defined as follows:

<u>North America:</u>	<u>Europe:</u>	<u>Rest of World :<sup>(1)</sup></u>
U.S. - Northeast	Europe	Australia
U.S. - Southeast		New Zealand
U.S. - Mid-Atlantic		Japan
U.S. - Florida		South America
U.S. - Gulf		
U.S. - New Madrid		
U.S. - Midwest		
U.S. - California		
U.S. - Hawaii		
Canada		

(1) The Company to the best of its knowledge has not made and does not have current plans to have any contacts with any governments or entities targeted by U.S. sanctions including those applicable to Sudan, Syria and Iran.

### Single Event Losses

For certain defined natural catastrophe region and peril combinations, the Manager assesses the probability and likely magnitude of losses using a combination of industry third-party models, proprietary models and underwriting judgment. The Manager attempts to model the estimated net impact from a single event, taking into account contributions from property catastrophe reinsurance (including retrocessional business), property pro-rata reinsurance and event-linked derivative securities, offset by the net benefit of any reinsurance or derivative protections we purchase and the benefit of premiums.

Our January 1, 2019 estimated single event loss exposures were within our underwriting guidelines. Namely, the estimated net impact from any one catastrophe loss event (excluding earthquake) at the 1 in 100 year return period for any one zone did not exceed 35% of our then-projected December 31, 2018 shareholders' equity, and the estimated net impact from any one earthquake loss event at the 1 in 250 year return period for any zone did not exceed 35% of our then-projected December 31, 2018 shareholders' equity.

There is no single standard methodology or set of assumptions utilized industry-wide in estimating property catastrophe losses. As a result, it may be difficult to accurately compare estimates of risk exposure among different insurance and reinsurance companies due to, among other things, underwriting judgment, differences in modeling, modeling assumptions, portfolio composition and concentrations, and selected event scenarios.

The table that follows details our estimated net impact from single event losses as of January 1, 2019 for selected zones at specified return periods. It is important to note that each catastrophe model we use contains its own assumptions as to the frequency and severity of loss events, and results may vary significantly from model to model.

#### Net Impact From Single Event Losses at Specified Return Periods

	Net Impact (Millions)	Return Period (1)	Percentage of December 31, 2018 Shareholders' Equity
U.S. - Florida hurricane	\$ 21	1 in 100 year	23%
Japan earthquake	9	1 in 250 year	10%
All other zones			less than 10%

(1) A "100-year" return period can also be referred to as the 1.0% occurrence exceedance probability ("OEP"), meaning there is an estimated 1.0% chance in any given year that this level will be exceeded. A "250-year" return period can also be referred to as the 0.4% OEP, meaning there is an estimated 0.4% chance in any given year that this level will be exceeded.

Our estimates of the net impact from single event losses may vary considerably from our actual experience for an event within a particular territory depending on the specific characteristics of the event.

Given the limited availability of reliable historical data, there is a great deal of uncertainty with regard to the accuracy of any catastrophe model, especially when contemplating longer return periods.

Our single event loss estimates represent snapshots as of the time of such estimates. The composition of our in-force portfolio may change materially at any time due to the acceptance of new policies, losses incurred, the expiration of existing policies, and changes in our ceded reinsurance and derivative protections.



## Results of Operations

We operate as a single business segment through the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries: (i) Blue Capital Re, a Bermuda exempted limited liability company registered as a Class 3A insurer in Bermuda, which offers collateralized reinsurance; and (ii) Blue Capital Re ILS, a Bermuda exempted limited liability company which conducts hedging and other investment activities in support of Blue Capital Re's operations.

Our consolidated results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31, 2018	Year Ended December 31, 2017
<b>Revenues</b>		
Reinsurance premiums written	\$ 33.2	\$ 46.1
Change in net unearned reinsurance premiums	0.2	(0.1)
Net reinsurance premiums earned	33.4	46.0
Net gain from derivative instruments	—	2.3
Net investment income	2.0	1.1
Total revenues	35.4	49.4
<b>Expenses</b>		
<i>Underwriting expenses:</i>		
Loss and LAE - current year	31.5	77.9
Loss and LAE - prior year	19.0	1.1
Loss and LAE	50.5	79.0
Reinsurance acquisition costs	9.0	8.7
General and administrative expenses	4.5	4.9
Total expenses	64.0	92.6
<b>Net loss and comprehensive loss</b>	<b>\$ (28.6)</b>	<b>\$ (43.2)</b>
Loss and LAE ratio - current year	94.3%	169.1%
Loss and LAE ratio - prior year	56.9%	2.5%
Loss and LAE ratio	151.2%	171.6%
Acquisition cost ratio	26.9%	19.0%
General and administrative expense ratio	13.5%	10.7%
GAAP combined ratio	191.6%	201.3%

### Reinsurance Premiums Written and Earned

During 2018 and 2017 we wrote \$33.2 million and \$46.1 million of reinsurance premiums, respectively, all of which represented indemnity reinsurance contracts relating to property catastrophe risks. The decrease in reinsurance premiums written in 2018, compared to 2017 was driven by a smaller capital base, lower reinstatement premiums and participation in greater cessions to third party reinsurers by Blue Water Re, partially offset by average risk adjusted price increases at the key renewal dates. See "Reinsurance Premiums and Acquisition Costs" in Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

During 2018 and 2017, we earned \$33.4 million and \$46.0 million of reinsurance premiums, respectively. Our reinsurance premiums earned are primarily a function of the amount and timing of reinsurance premiums previously written.

Our reinsurance premiums written and earned during 2018 and 2017 included \$4.6 million and \$4.7 million, respectively of reinstatement premiums.

**Net Gain or Loss From Derivative Instruments**

During 2018, our in-force derivative contracts included the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps. During 2017, our in-force derivative contracts included the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps and the 2016 Outward ILW Swaps.

During the year ended December 31, 2018 we recognized less than \$0.1 million of net loss from derivative instruments. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we recognized \$2.3 million of net gain from derivative instruments. The Company did not enter into any ILW Swaps during 2018. Net gains from derivative instruments recorded in 2017 were due to a \$4.7 million recovery that was triggered and settled on the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps resulting from the third quarter catastrophe events, partially offset by amortization of fixed payments.

See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Loss and LAE**

The following table summarizes the components of our consolidated loss and LAE incurred and our loss and LAE ratios for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Loss and LAE incurred - current year	\$ 31.5	\$ 77.9
Loss and LAE incurred - prior year	19.0	1.1
Total loss and LAE incurred	\$ 50.5	\$ 79.0
Loss and LAE ratio- current year	94.3%	169.1%
Loss and LAE ratio- prior year	56.9%	2.5%
Loss and LAE ratio	151.2%	171.6%

During 2018, we incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses of \$50.5 million primarily driven by the catastrophe events summarized in the following table together with reported attritional losses and incurred but not reported ("IBNR") reserves. The catastrophe event losses shown are net of recoveries from retrocessional protection purchased by Blue Water Re totaling \$19.5 million. In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2018, we recognized \$19.0 million of net adverse loss and LAE reserve development for estimated losses incurred related to 2017 catastrophe events, primarily Hurricane Irma, which made landfall in the U.S. in September 2017 following the receipt of new or revised loss information from our cedants.

During 2017, we established \$79.0 million of loss and LAE reserves for estimated losses incurred primarily driven by the catastrophe events summarized in the following table, together with reported attritional losses and incurred but not reported ("IBNR") reserves. In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2017 we recognized \$1.1 million of net adverse loss and LAE reserve development for estimated losses incurred primarily during 2016. The prior year loss and LAE development we recognized during 2017 was the result of new or revised loss information received from our cedants in respect of multiple 2016 loss events.

Event Date	Event (U.S. dollars in millions)	Loss and loss adjustment expenses		Event Date	Event (U.S. dollars in millions)	Loss and loss adjustment expenses	
		Year Ended December 31, 2018				Year Ended December 31, 2017	
August 2018	Typhoon Jebi	\$	0.8	August 2017	Hurricane Harvey	\$	6.0
August to December 2018	California Wildfires		1.6	September 2017	Hurricane Irma		36.6
September 2018	Hurricane Florence		1.5	September 2017	Hurricane Maria		3.7
September 2018	Typhoon Trami		0.4	October to December 2017	California Wildfires		2.5
October 2018	Hurricane Michael		15.5	September 2017	Aggregate & Second Event Losses Triggered By Multiple Catastrophe Events		21.2
August to December 2018	Aggregate & Second Event Losses Triggered By Multiple Catastrophe Events		8.1				
		\$	<u>27.9</u>			\$	<u>70.0</u>

### Reinsurance Acquisition Costs

Our reinsurance acquisition costs, which we normally recognize over the underlying risk period of the related contracts, include commissions, brokerage costs, premium taxes and excise taxes, in each case, when applicable, and are normally a set percentage of gross premiums written. Our reinsurance acquisition costs may also include profit commissions, which are paid to ceding companies in the event of favorable loss experience.

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Commissions, brokerage costs, fronting fees and other	\$ 8.8	\$ 8.8
Profit commissions	0.2	(0.1)
Total reinsurance acquisition costs	\$ 9.0	\$ 8.7
Reinsurance acquisition cost ratio	26.9%	19.0%

Our reinsurance acquisition costs relating to commissions, brokerage costs, fronting fees and related costs in 2018 were comparable to the costs incurred during 2017. The reinsurance acquisition cost ratio has increased in 2018 compared to 2017 due to greater cessions to third party reinsurers by Blue Water Re which have reduced earned premiums. Our profit commissions incurred, which fluctuate based on our loss experience, were modestly higher in 2018 compared to 2017 as a result of adjustments to older underwriting year treaties.

**General and Administrative Expenses**

The following table summarizes our general and administrative expenses for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017.

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31,	
	2018	2017
Investment Management Agreement fees	\$ 1.8	\$ 2.4
Administrative Services Agreement fees	0.6	0.6
Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement fees	—	0.4
Public company expenses	2.1	1.5
Total general and administrative expenses	\$ 4.5	\$ 4.9
General and administrative expense ratio	13.5%	10.7%

See Note 11 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for detailed information regarding the nature of the expenses that we incur pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the Administrative Services Agreement.

The expenses we have incurred pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement and the Administrative Services Agreement has decreased slightly in 2018 as compared to 2017, due to the lower equity base. During 2018, we incurred no performance fees pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement compared to \$0.4 million during 2017. The absence of performance fees since the first half of 2017 is due to the underwriting losses recorded in the ensuing period.

Our public company expenses incurred during the years presented consisted of director fees, corporate insurance premiums, audit fees, share-based compensation and other expenses associated with being a publicly traded company. The increase in these expenses during the year ended December 31, 2018, versus those of 2017, is due to higher professional fees and legal expenses.

**Income Taxes**

We were not subject to income taxes in any jurisdiction during the periods presented.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources****Liquidity**

The Company has no operations of its own and relies on dividends and distributions from its operating subsidiaries to pay its expenses and dividends to its shareholders and to repay any outstanding borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility. There are restrictions imposed by the BMA on the payment of dividends to the Company from its operating subsidiaries as described below and in Note 10 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The primary sources of cash for the Company's operating subsidiaries are capital contributions, premium collections, issuances of and net income from insurance-linked securities and reinsurance recoveries. The primary uses of cash for the Company's operating subsidiaries are payments of loss and LAE, reinsurance acquisition costs, general and administrative expenses, including fees payable to the Manager, ceded reinsurance, purchases of and net losses from insurance-linked securities and dividends and distributions. As a result of the net losses recorded in 2018 and 2017, until such time as Blue Capital Re extinguishes its retained deficit position, the payment of dividends are subject to return of capital restrictions. Blue Capital Re may not reduce its total statutory capital by 15% or more, as set out in its previous year's financial statements, unless it has received the prior approval of the BMA. Total statutory capital consists of Blue Capital Re's paid in share capital, its contributed surplus (sometimes called additional paid in capital) and any other fixed capital designated by the BMA as statutory capital. As of December 31, 2018, Blue Capital Re could pay a dividend or return additional paid-in-capital totaling approximately \$22.6 million (2017 - \$23.9 million) without prior regulatory approval based upon Bermuda law and regulations.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company held \$2.2 million and \$6.0 million of cash and cash equivalents which represented unencumbered cash on hand.

On May 6, 2016, the Company entered into the 2016 Credit Facility with Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd. (the "Lender"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International. The 2016 Credit Facility provides the Company with an unsecured \$20.0 million revolving credit facility for working capital and general corporate purposes. Borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility bear interest, set at the time of the borrowing, at a rate equal to the applicable LIBOR rate plus 150 basis points. A one-time fee of \$20,000 was due to the Lender in connection with establishing the 2016 Credit Facility. The 2016 Credit Facility contains covenants that limit the Company's ability, among other things, to grant liens on its assets, sell assets, merge or consolidate, or incur debt. If the Company fails to comply with any of these covenants, the Lender could revoke the facility and exercise remedies against the Company. In addition, in the event of a default in the performance of any of the agreements or covenants under certain management agreements with the Manager by the Company, the Lender has the right to terminate the 2016 Credit Facility. The 2016 Credit Facility was amended on July 31, 2018 to extend its expiry to September 30, 2020 under identical terms. As of December 31, 2018, the Company was in compliance with all of its respective covenants associated with the 2016 Credit Facility. On December 31, 2018, Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd. merged into its parent, Endurance Bermuda, and the obligations of the Lender were assumed.

As of December 31, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$4.0 million (2017 - nil) under the 2016 Credit Facility, which were subject to annual interest rates ranging between 3.91% and 4.11%.

The Company intends to ultimately repay its outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility with funds it expects to receive from Blue Capital Re, which are made available to Blue Capital Re in the normal course through scheduled releases of funds held as collateral.

During 2018 and 2017, we declared and paid quarterly cash dividends of \$0.30 per Common Share and RSU during each of the first three quarters of the year. In addition, in the first quarter of 2017 we declared a special dividend of \$0.59 per Common Share and RSU with respect to the 2016 fiscal year. The total amount of dividends paid to holders of Common Shares and RSUs during 2018 and 2017 was \$7.9 million and \$13.1 million, respectively.

We intend to distribute a minimum of 90% of annual Distributable Income by continuing to make regular quarterly dividend payments for each of the first three fiscal quarters of each fiscal year, followed by either repurchases of Common Shares or payment of a special dividend after the end of our fiscal year. Any future determination to pay dividends or repurchase Common Shares will remain at the discretion of the Board and will be dependent upon many factors, including: (i) our financial condition, liquidity, results of operations (including our ability to generate cash flow in excess of our expenses) and capital requirements; (ii) general business conditions, (iii) legal, tax and regulatory limitations; (iv) contractual prohibitions and other restrictions; (v) trading price of the Company's Common Shares as compared to the Company's book value per share; and (vi) any other factors that the Board deems relevant. We generally expect that our dividends will be subject to customary dividend tax treatment in the U.S., but if our total dividends paid during any given year exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits as of the end of such year (determined under U.S. tax principles), a portion of our dividends paid in that year will be treated: (i) first, as a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of a shareholder's tax basis in Common Shares (on a dollar-for-dollar basis); and (ii) subsequently, as capital gain.

### ***Capital Resources***

Our total shareholders' equity (or total capital) was \$90.7 million and \$127.1 million at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The decrease in our total capital during the year ended December 31, 2018 was primarily the result of recording a net loss of \$28.6 million and declaring \$7.9 million in dividends to holders of Common Shares and RSUs.

We may need to raise additional capital in the future, by issuing new debt, equity or hybrid securities, in order to enable us to, among other things: write new business; enter into other reinsurance opportunities; cover or pay losses; manage working capital requirements; repurchase Common Shares; respond to, or comply with, any changes in the capital requirements, if any, that the BMA or other regulatory bodies may require; acquire new businesses; or invest in existing businesses. We intend to rely on future offerings of Common Shares to raise additional equity capital; however, we cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully raise additional capital. In the event that we incur indebtedness for any of these purposes or other purposes, we intend to limit our borrowing to an amount no greater than 50% of our shareholders' equity at the time of the borrowing. However, subject to the approval of the Board, we may borrow an amount in excess of 50% of our shareholders' equity at the time of the borrowing.

The issuance of any new debt, equity or hybrid securities might be on terms and conditions that are unfavorable to our shareholders. Any new issuances of equity or hybrid securities could include the issuance of securities with rights, preferences and privileges that are senior or otherwise superior to those of Common Shares and could be dilutive to our existing shareholders. Any new debt securities may contain terms that materially restrict our operations, including our ability to

distribute cash to our shareholders. In addition, if we cannot obtain adequate capital on favorable terms, or at all, our business could be adversely affected.

### ***Collateral Requirements and Restrictions***

Each of the reinsurance contracts that Blue Capital Re writes is required to be fully-collateralized by cash and cash equivalents or funds held by reinsurance companies. This collateral is not available to Blue Capital Re for any other purpose until the expiration of the applicable reinsurance contract (or, in the event of a covered loss, the resolution of such loss under the applicable contract). As a result of the significant losses incurred from the catastrophe events of 2017 and 2018, in line with contractual requirements for buffer loss provisions in the treaties that the Company enters into, collateral that we would typically expect to be available at the key 2019 renewal dates will not be available for deployment. As of January 1, 2019 approximately 11% of projected shareholders' equity was unavailable for deployment as a result of buffer loss provision terms. We expect this locked up collateral will be released systematically through the course of 2019 and 2020.

Each industry loss warranty contract that Blue Capital Re ILS issues is required to be fully-collateralized by cash and cash equivalents. This collateral is not available to Blue Capital Re ILS for any other purpose until the expiration of the applicable industry loss warranty contract (or, in the event of a covered loss, the resolution of such loss under the contract).

### ***Contractual Obligations and Commitments***

The Company's contractual obligations as of December 31, 2018 are summarized as follows:

(\$ in millions)	Payments due by period				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years	More than 5 years
Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves	\$ 49.9	\$ 25.8	\$ 19.2	\$ 1.9	\$ 3.0
Borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility	4.0	4.0	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 53.9</b>	<b>\$ 29.8</b>	<b>\$ 19.2</b>	<b>\$ 1.9</b>	<b>\$ 3.0</b>

The Company expects to fund the obligations noted in the table above from funds currently held as collateral.

The Company and its operating subsidiaries have entered into the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the Administrative Services Agreement with the Manager.

A summary of our obligations pursuant to each of these agreements follows:

***Investment Management Agreement.*** Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, we are obligated to pay the Manager a management fee (the "Management Fee") equal to 1.5% of our average total shareholders' equity (as defined in the Investment Management Agreement) per annum, calculated and payable in arrears in cash each quarter (or part thereof) that the Investment Management Agreement is in effect.

As of December 31, 2018, our total shareholders' equity was \$90.7 million. Assuming that our average total shareholders' equity remains at this level in future periods, we would expect to pay the Manager a Management Fee of approximately \$1.4 million per year pursuant to this agreement.

***Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.*** Pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, we are obligated to pay the Manager a performance fee (the "Performance Fee") which is equal to 20% of our pre-tax, pre-Performance Fee income over a hurdle amount (as defined in the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement) and payable in arrears in cash each quarter (or part thereof) that such agreement is in effect.

Since the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement is dependent on our future performance, we are unable to determine the amount of Performance Fees we would expect to pay the Manager in future periods pursuant to this agreement. During 2018, we have not incurred any Performance Fees pursuant to this agreement.

As a result of the net losses recorded in the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the company did not incur a Performance fee in 2018, and management estimates that the Company will not pay a Performance Fee in 2019 due to the rolling three year high water mark provision.

**Administrative Services Agreement.** Pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement, we are obligated to reimburse the Manager for various fees, expenses and other costs in connection with the services provided under the terms of this agreement, including the services of our Chief Financial Officer, modeling software licenses and finance, legal and administrative support.

We currently expect to pay the Manager approximately \$0.6 million per year in future periods pursuant to this agreement.

**Certain Termination Provisions Associated with the Foregoing Agreements.** We may not terminate the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement or the Administrative Services Agreement other than in three year intervals, whether or not the Manager's performance results are satisfactory. Upon any termination or non-renewal of either of the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement (other than for a material breach by, or the insolvency of, the Manager), we must pay a one-time termination fee to the Manager equal to 5% of our GAAP shareholders' equity, calculated as of the most recently completed quarter prior to the date of termination.

As of December 31, 2018, if we were to terminate either the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, we would be required to pay the Manager a one-time termination fee of approximately \$4.5 million.

Neither the Company nor its operating subsidiaries had any commitments for operating leases or capital expenditures at December 31, 2018 and neither the Company nor its operating subsidiaries expect any material expenditures of this type during the next 12 months or for the foreseeable future.

### **Regulation and Capital Requirements**

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to regulation and capital requirements established by supervisors in multiple jurisdictions. See Note 10 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for detailed information concerning our regulatory and capital requirements.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

As of December 31, 2018, we were not subject to any off-balance sheet arrangements that we believe are material to our investors.

### **Cash Flows**

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31, 2018	Year Ended December 31, 2017
Net cash provided by operations	\$ 0.1	\$ 14.4
Net cash used in financing activities	(3.9)	(13.1)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(3.8)	1.3
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	6.0	4.7
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 2.2	\$ 6.0

We experienced a net decrease of \$3.8 million in our cash and cash equivalents during 2018 and a net increase of \$1.3 million during 2017.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, our net releases of cash and cash equivalents from trusts established by Blue Water Re and cash inflows from other operating activities exceeded our payments of general and administrative expenses by \$0.1 million. We also paid \$7.9 million in dividends to holders of Common Shares and RSUs partially offset by borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility of \$4.0 million.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, our net releases of cash and cash equivalents from trusts established by Blue Water Re and cash inflows from other operating activities exceeded our payments of general and administrative expenses by \$14.4 million. We also paid \$13.1 million in dividends to holders of Common Shares and RSUs.

### ***Repatriation of Cash***

We do not have any operations outside of Bermuda and, accordingly, we do not expect to repatriate any cash or other assets from any other jurisdiction.

### **Summary of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of our financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported and disclosed amounts of our assets and liabilities as of the balance sheet dates and the reported amounts of our revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. We believe the items that require the most subjective and complex estimates are: (1) our loss and LAE reserves; and (2) our written and earned reinsurance premiums. Our accounting policies for these items are of critical importance to our consolidated financial statements.

#### ***Loss and LAE Reserves***

Our loss and LAE reserves represent our best estimate of future amounts needed to pay our claims and related expenses (such as claim adjusters' fees and litigation expenses) for insured losses that have occurred. The process of estimating these reserves involves a considerable degree of judgment, and our estimates as of any given date are inherently uncertain. The Manager provides us with assistance in establishing, maintaining and settling our loss and LAE reserves.

Estimating loss and LAE reserves requires us to make assumptions regarding reporting and development patterns, frequency and severity trends, claims settlement practices, potential changes in legal environments, inflation, loss amplification and other factors. These estimates and judgments are based on numerous considerations and are revised as: (i) we receive changes in loss amounts reported by ceding companies and brokers; (ii) we obtain additional information, experience or other data; (iii) new or improved methodologies and/or relevant data sources are utilized; or (iv) laws change.

The timeliness of loss reporting can be affected by such factors as the nature of the event causing the loss, the location of the loss and where our exposure falls within the cedant's overall reinsurance program. Our reserving process is highly dependent on the loss information we receive from ceding companies and brokers. Furthermore, during the loss settlement period, which may last several years, additional facts regarding individual claims and trends often will become known, and case law may change, all of which can affect our ultimate expected losses.

Our loss and LAE reserves are comprised of case reserves, which are based on claims that have been reported to us, and IBNR reserves, which represent a provision for claims that have been incurred but not yet reported, as well as future loss development on losses already reported, in excess of the case reserves.

Our case reserve estimates are initially determined on the basis of loss reports we receive from our cedants. Our IBNR reserve estimates are determined using various actuarial methods as well as a combination of historical insurance industry loss experience, estimates of pricing adequacy trends and our professional judgment. The process we use to estimate our IBNR reserves involves projecting our estimated ultimate loss and LAE reserves and then subtracting paid claims and case reserves as notified by the ceding company, to arrive at our IBNR reserves. For the quota share business assumed by the Company, IBNR is generally determined using a variety of loss reserving methods based upon loss reporting patterns, initial expected loss ratios, information provided by ceding companies and brokers, and judgment.

Most of our direct and fronted reinsurance contracts are comprised of business that has both a low frequency of claims occurrence and a high potential severity of loss, primarily from claims arising from natural and man-made catastrophes. Given the high-severity, low-frequency nature of these events, the losses typically generated therefrom do not lend themselves to traditional actuarial reserving methods, such as statistical calculations of a range of estimates surrounding the best point estimate of our loss and LAE reserves. Therefore, our reserving approach for these types of coverages is to estimate the ultimate cost associated with a single loss event rather than to analyze the historical development patterns of past losses as a means of estimating ultimate losses for an entire accident year. We estimate our reserves for these large events on a contract-by-contract basis by means of a review of policies with known or potential exposure to a particular loss event.

The two primary bases we use for estimating the ultimate loss associated with a large event are: (i) actual and precautionary claims advice received from the cedant; and (ii) the nature and extent of the impact the event is estimated to have on the industry as a whole and the affected underlying contracts. Immediately after a loss event, the estimated industry market loss is the primary driver of our ultimate loss from such event. In order to estimate the nature and extent of the event, we rely on output provided by commercially available catastrophe models, as well as proprietary models developed by Sampo



International and utilized by the Manager. The exposure of each cedant potentially affected by the event is analyzed on the basis of this output. As the amount of information received from cedants increases during the period following an event, so does our reliance on this information.

While the approach we use in reserving for large events is applied with consistency, at any point in time the specific reserving assumptions may vary among contracts. The assumptions for a specific contract may depend upon the class of business, historical reporting patterns of the cedant (if any), whether or not the cedant provides an IBNR estimate, how much of the loss has been paid, the number of underlying claims still open and other factors. For example, the expected loss development for a contract with one percent of its claims still open would likely be less than for a contract with 50% of its claims still open.

To the extent we rely on industry data to aid us in our reserve estimates, there is a risk that the data may not match our risk profile or that the industry's overall reserving practices differ from our own and those of our cedants. In addition, reserving may prove to be especially difficult should a significant loss take place near the end of a reporting period, particularly if the loss involves a catastrophic event. These factors further contribute to the degree of uncertainty in our reserving process.

As a reinsurer, we rely on loss information reported to brokers by primary insurers who, in turn, must estimate their own losses at the policy level, often based on incomplete and changing information. The information we receive varies by cedant and may include paid losses, estimated case reserves and an estimated provision for IBNR reserves. Reserving practices and the quality of data reporting vary among ceding companies, which adds further uncertainty to the estimation of our ultimate losses. The nature and extent of information we receive from ceding companies and brokers also vary widely depending on the type of coverage, the contractual reporting terms (which are affected by market conditions and practices) and other factors. Due to the lack of standardization of the terms and conditions of reinsurance contracts, the wide variability of coverage provided to individual clients and the tendency of those coverages to change rapidly in response to market conditions, the ongoing economic impact of such uncertainties and inconsistencies cannot be reliably measured. Additional risks to us involved in the reporting of retrocessional contracts include varying reserving methodologies used by the original cedants and an additional reporting lag due to the time required for the retrocedant to aggregate its assumed losses before reporting them to us. Additionally, the number of contractual intermediaries are typically greater for retrocessional business than for insurance and reinsurance business, thereby further increasing the time lag and imprecision associated with loss reporting.

Since we rely on ceding company estimates of case and IBNR reserves in the process of establishing our own loss and LAE reserves, we maintain certain procedures designed to mitigate the risk that this information is incomplete or inaccurate. These procedures may include: (i) performing retrospective reviews regarding how the client's loss estimates held up for prior events; and (ii) holding discussions and meetings with the client and broker to ascertain further details and potential uncertainties impacting their estimates. We also utilize catastrophe model outputs and industry market share information to evaluate the reasonableness of reported losses, which are also compared to loss reports received from other cedants. These procedures are incorporated on an ongoing basis and are regularly evaluated and amended as market conditions, risk factors and unanticipated areas of exposure develop.

We do not expect to experience any significant claims processing backlogs, although such backlogs may occur following a major catastrophic event.

The uncertainties inherent in the reserving process, together with the potential for unforeseen developments, including changes in laws and the prevailing interpretation of policy terms, may result in our ultimate paid loss and LAE amounts being significantly greater or less than the loss and LAE reserves we initially established. Estimated ultimate losses for Hurricane Michael, Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Jebi, and the California fires which occurred in the latter half of 2018 are subject to particularly high uncertainty, as the large magnitude and recent occurrence of these events make damages particularly difficult to assess. There also remains significant uncertainty related to our loss estimates for Hurricane Irma due to continued judicial and claims issues in Florida related to the legal environment, the assignment of benefits issue, and the reopening of previously closed claims. In addition, there is a great deal of uncertainty regarding the extent to which judicial and regulatory rulings will cause uncovered perils, such as flood, to be covered by the ceding companies, which further increases the uncertainty around the ultimate loss estimates. Any adjustments to our loss and LAE reserves are reflected in our financial results during the period in which they are determined.

We have determined that our best estimates for our gross and net loss and LAE reserves at December 31, 2018 and 2017 were \$49.9 million and \$43.4 million respectively. The following table summarizes the composition of these reserves at December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
Gross and net IBNR	\$ 25.1	\$ 17.1
Gross and net Case Reserves	24.8	26.3
Gross and net unpaid loss and LAE reserves	\$ 49.9	\$ 43.4

GAAP does not permit us to record or carry contingency reserves for catastrophe losses that are expected to occur in the future. Therefore, during periods in which significant catastrophe loss events occur, our underwriting results are likely to be adverse, and during periods in which significant catastrophe loss events do not occur, our underwriting results are likely to be favorable.

We believe that our reserves for loss and LAE are sufficient to cover losses that fall within the terms of our policies and agreements with our insured and reinsured customers on the basis of the methodologies used to estimate those reserves. There can be no assurance, however, that actual losses will not be less than or exceed our total established reserves.

### ***Written and Earned Reinsurance Premiums***

We write reinsurance contracts on both an excess-of-loss and a pro-rata basis. For excess-of-loss contracts, written premiums are typically based on the deposit or minimum premium specified in the reinsurance contract. For pro-rata contracts, written premiums are recognized based on estimates of ultimate premiums provided by either the ceding companies or the Manager.

All of our reinsurance contracts are currently being written on a losses-occurring basis, which means that all loss events occurring during the period of the contract are covered, regardless of the inception dates of the underlying policies. Any loss events occurring after the expiration of a losses-occurring contract are not covered.

For reinsurance contracts which incorporate minimum premium amounts, we typically write the entire ultimate premium at inception, and earn the associated premium after the premium is written over the term of the contract. For reinsurance contracts which do not incorporate minimum premium amounts, we typically write the premium over the term of the contract, and earn the associated premium in the same periods that the premium is written.

Subsequent adjustments of written premium, based on reports of actual premium by the ceding companies, or revisions in estimates of ultimate premium, are recorded in the period in which they are determined. Such adjustments are generally determined after the associated risk periods have expired, in which case the premium adjustments are fully earned when written.

Some of our reinsurance contracts may include contract terms that require an automatic reinstatement of coverage in the event of a loss. Reinstatement premiums are fully earned or expensed as applicable when a triggering loss event occurs and losses are recorded. We record reinstatement premiums on a basis consistent with our estimates of losses and LAE. During 2018 and 2017, we recorded net written and earned reinstatement premiums totaling \$4.6 million and \$4.7 million, respectively.

We routinely review the creditworthiness of our cedants on the basis of our market knowledge, the cedant's current financial strength ratings, the timeliness of cedants' past payments and the status of current balances owing. Based on our reviews, we have determined that we did not require an allowance for uncollectible reinsurance premiums receivable as of 2018 and 2017.

### **Item 7A. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk***

Not applicable.

### **Item 8. *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data***

The financial statements and supplementary data have been filed as a part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K as indicated in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedules appearing on page 73 of this report.

**Item 9. *Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure***

None.

**Item 9A. *Controls and Procedures***

The Company's management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon such evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective in recording, processing, summarizing and reporting, on a timely basis, the information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

**Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

The management of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). This internal control provides monitoring mechanisms, and actions are taken to correct deficiencies identified.

There are inherent limitations in any internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even effective internal controls can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation. Further, because of changes in conditions, controls may become inadequate or the degree of compliance with policies or procedures may deteriorate over time.

Management assessed the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth in "Internal Control – Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 Framework). Based on this assessment, management concluded that, as of December 31, 2018, the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting.

Ernst & Young, Ltd., an independent registered public accounting firm, has issued their attestation report on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

There have been no changes in our internal controls over financial reporting during the fourth quarter of 2018 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd.

### Opinion on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We have audited Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). In our opinion, Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. (the Company) maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of comprehensive loss, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes and our report dated March 1, 2019 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

### Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ Ernst & Young Ltd.

Hamilton, Bermuda  
March 1, 2019

**Item 9B. Other Information**

None.

### **PART III**

#### **Item 10. *Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance***

The information called for by Item 10 is reported under the captions "*Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance*," "*Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement and incorporated herein by reference.

The Company's Code of Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all directors, officers and employees in carrying out their responsibilities to and on behalf of the Company, is available at [www.bcapre.bm](http://www.bcapre.bm). The Company's Code of Conduct and Ethics is also available in print free of charge to any shareholder upon request.

The procedures for shareholders to nominate directors are reported under the caption "*The Board and Committees - Shareholder Recommendations*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 11. *Executive Compensation***

The information called for by Item 11 is reported under the caption "*Executive Compensation*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 12. *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters***

The information called for by Item 12 is reported under the captions "*Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement and incorporated herein by reference and included under "*Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans*" contained in Item 5 herein.

#### **Item 13. *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence***

The information called for by Item 13 is reported under the captions "*Certain Relationships and Related Transactions*" and "*The Board and Committees*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 14. *Principal Accountant Fees and Services***

The information called for by Item 14 is reported under the caption "*Appointment of Independent Auditor*" in the Company's 2019 Proxy Statement and incorporated herein by reference.

**PART IV****Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules****(a) Documents Filed as Part of the Report**

The consolidated financial statements and report of independent registered public accounting firm have been filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K as indicated in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements appearing on page 73 of this report. A listing of all exhibits filed as part of the report appears on pages 69 through 70 of this report.

**(b) Exhibits**

The exhibits followed by an asterisk (\*) indicate exhibits physically filed with this Annual Report on Form 10-K. All other exhibit numbers indicate exhibits filed by incorporation by reference.

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description of Document</b>
3.1	<a href="#">Certificate of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).</a>
3.2	<a href="#">Certificate of Incorporation on Change of Name of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).</a>
3.3	<a href="#">Memorandum of Association of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).</a>
3.4	<a href="#">Certificate of Deposit of Memorandum of Increase of Share Capital of the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.4 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).</a>
3.5	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Bye-Laws (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on May 9, 2018).</a>
4.1	<a href="#">Form of Share Certificate (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).</a>
10.1	<a href="#">Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement dated November 12, 2013, among the Company, Blue Capital Re and the Manager (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on November 12, 2013).</a>
10.2	<a href="#">Investment Management Agreement dated November 12, 2013, between the Company and the Manager (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on November 12, 2013).</a>
10.3	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Administrative Services Agreement dated November 13, 2014, between the Company and the Manager (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on November 14, 2014).</a>
10.4	<a href="#">Trademark License Agreement dated November 12, 2013, between the Company and Montpelier Re Holdings Ltd. ("Montpelier") (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on November 12, 2013).</a>
10.5	<a href="#">Shareholder and Registration Rights Agreement dated November 12, 2013 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on November 12, 2013).</a>
10.6	<a href="#">Retrocession Agreement dated December 31, 2013, between Blue Capital Re and Blue Water Re (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on January 6, 2014).</a>

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description of Document</b>
10.7	<a href="#">The Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-191586).(**)</a>
10.8	<a href="#">Form of 2014 Director Restricted Share Unit Award Agreement under the Company's 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on May 15, 2014).(**)</a>
10.9	<a href="#">Form of 2015-2018 Restricted Share Unit Award Agreement under the 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed on July 30, 2015).(**)</a>
10.10	<a href="#">Credit Facility Agreement, dated May 6, 2016, between Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd, and Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed on May 9, 2016).</a>
10.11	<a href="#">Letter dated September 27, 2017 by and among John V. Del Col, Sompo International and the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on September 29, 2017).(**)</a>
10.12	<a href="#">Letter dated September 27, 2017 by and among Michael McGuire, Sompo International and the Company (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on September 29, 2017).(**)</a>
10.13	<a href="#">First Amendment to Credit Agreement made and entered into as of the 31st day of July, 2018 among Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. and Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd. (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 10-Q filed on August 1, 2018).</a>
21	<a href="#">Subsidiaries of the Registrant.(*)</a>
23.1	<a href="#">Consent of Ernst &amp; Young Ltd.(*)</a>
24	<a href="#">Power of Attorney (included as part of Signatures page).(*)</a>
31.1	<a href="#">Certification of Michael McGuire, CEO of the Company, pursuant to Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.(*)</a>
31.2	<a href="#">Certification of Greg A Garside, CFO of the Company, pursuant to Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.(*)</a>
32	<a href="#">Certifications of Michael McGuire and Greg A Garside, CEO and CFO, respectively, of the Company, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.(*)</a>
101	The following materials from the Company's Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2018 and 2017; (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss for each of the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017; (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for each of the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017; (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017; and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. (*)

\*\* Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement

**(c) Financial Statement Schedules**

None.



**Item 16. *Form 10-K Summary***

None.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.**

Date: March 1, 2019

By: /s/ GREG A. GARSIDE

Greg A. Garside

Chief Financial Officer

**Power of Attorney**

**KNOW ALL MEN** by these presents, that the undersigned does hereby make, constitute and appoint Michael J. McGuire, Greg A. Garside and Allison D. Kiene and each of them, as true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent of the undersigned, with full power of substitution, resubstitution and revocation, for and in the name, place and stead of the undersigned, to execute and deliver the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018, and any and all amendments thereto; such Form 10-K and each such amendment to be in such form and to contain such terms and provisions as said attorney or substitute shall deem necessary or desirable; giving and granting unto said attorney, or to such person or persons as in any case may be appointed pursuant to the power of substitution herein given, full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary or, in the opinion of said attorney or substitute, able to be done in and about the premises as fully and to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney or such substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1934, this Report on Form 10-K has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2019.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ MICHAEL J. MCGUIRE</u> Michael J. McGuire	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)
<u>/s/ GREG A. GARSIDE</u> Greg A. Garside	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)
<u>/s/ D. ANDREW COOK</u> D. Andrew Cook	Director
<u>/s/ JOHN V. DEL COL</u> John V. Del Col	Director
<u>/s/ ERIC LEMIEUX</u> Eric Lemieux	Director
<u>/s/ JOHN R. WEALE</u> John R. Weale	Director

**Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedules**

**Form  
10-K  
page(s)**

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**Consolidated Financial Statements:**

<a href="#">Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</a>	<a href="#">F-1</a>
<a href="#">Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2018 and 2017</a>	<a href="#">F-2</a>
<a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss for the Year Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017</a>	<a href="#">F-3</a>
<a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the Year Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017</a>	<a href="#">F-4</a>
<a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Year Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017</a>	<a href="#">F-5</a>
<a href="#">Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</a>	<a href="#">F-6</a>

**Other Financial Information:**

<a href="#">Management's Responsibility For Financial Statements</a>	<a href="#">F-20</a>
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**Financial Statement Schedules:**

I.	Summary of Investments - Other than Investments in Related Parties	*
II.	Condensed Financial Information of the Registrant	*
III.	Supplementary Insurance Information	*
IV.	Reinsurance	*
V.	Valuation and Qualifying Accounts	*
VI.	Supplemental Information Concerning Property and Casualty Insurance Operations	*

\* Not required to be filed in accordance with Rule 7-05 of Regulation S-X.

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd.

**Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. and Subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2018, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) and our report dated March 1, 2019 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

**Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ Ernst & Young Ltd.

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

Hamilton, Bermuda

March 1, 2019

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In millions of U.S. dollars, except share and per share amounts)	December 31,	
	2018	2017
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2.2	\$ 6.0
Reinsurance premiums receivable	8.9	11.1
Deferred reinsurance acquisition costs	0.1	0.1
Funds held by ceding companies	150.4	164.8
Other assets	1.7	0.2
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 163.3</b>	<b>\$ 182.2</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves	\$ 49.9	\$ 43.4
Unearned reinsurance premiums	0.8	1.0
Debt	4.0	—
Reinsurance balances payable	16.4	10.1
Other liabilities (See Note 11)	1.5	0.6
Total Liabilities	72.6	55.1
<b>Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Common Shares at \$1.00 par value per share - 100,000,000 shares authorized; <b>8,767,165</b> (2017: 8,761,229) shares issued and outstanding	8.8	8.8
Additional paid-in capital	157.8	165.6
Retained deficit	(75.9)	(47.3)
Total Shareholders' Equity	90.7	127.1
<b>Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 163.3</b>	<b>\$ 182.2</b>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, including Note 11, which describes certain related party transactions.

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE LOSS**

<b>(In millions of U.S. dollars, except per share amounts)</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2018</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2017</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Reinsurance premiums written	\$ 33.2	\$ 46.1
Change in net unearned reinsurance premiums	0.2	(0.1)
Net reinsurance premiums earned	33.4	46.0
Net gain from derivative instruments	—	2.3
Net investment income	2.0	1.1
Total revenues	35.4	49.4
<b>Expenses</b>		
<i>Underwriting expenses:</i>		
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	50.5	79.0
Reinsurance acquisition costs	9.0	8.7
General and administrative expenses	4.5	4.9
Total expenses	64.0	92.6
<b>Net loss and comprehensive loss</b>	<b>\$ (28.6)</b>	<b>\$ (43.2)</b>
<b>Per share data:</b>		
Basic and diluted loss per Common Share	\$ (3.27)	\$ (4.94)
Dividends declared per Common Share and RSU	\$ 0.90	\$ 1.49

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, including Note 11, which describes certain related party transactions.

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

(In millions of U.S. dollars)	Total shareholders' equity	Common Shares at par value	Additional paid-in capital	Retained (deficit) earnings
<b>Balance at January 1, 2017</b>	<b>183.3</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>165.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Net loss	(43.2)	—	—	(43.2)
Expense recognized for RSUs	0.1	—	0.1	—
Dividends declared - Common Shares and RSUs	(13.1)	—	—	(13.1)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2017</b>	<b>127.1</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>165.6</b>	<b>(47.3)</b>
Net loss	(28.6)	—	—	(28.6)
Expense recognized for RSUs	0.1	—	0.1	—
Dividends declared - Common Shares and RSUs	(7.9)	—	(7.9)	—
<b>Balance at December 31, 2018</b>	<b>\$ 90.7</b>	<b>\$ 8.8</b>	<b>\$ 157.8</b>	<b>\$ (75.9)</b>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, including Note 11, which describes certain related party transactions.

**BLUE CAPITAL REINSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In millions of U.S. dollars)	Year Ended December 31, 2018	Year Ended December 31, 2017
<b>Cash flows provided by operations:</b>		
Net loss	\$ (28.6)	\$ (43.2)
Charges to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operations:		
Expense recognized for RSUs	0.1	0.1
Net change in:		
Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves	6.5	32.3
Unearned reinsurance premiums	(0.2)	0.1
Reinsurance balances payable	6.3	3.0
Reinsurance premiums receivable	2.2	(3.4)
Funds held by ceding companies	14.4	26.6
Other liabilities	0.9	(1.7)
Other assets	(1.5)	0.6
<b>Net cash and cash equivalents provided by operations</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>14.4</b>
<b>Net cash and cash equivalents used in investing activities</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Cash flows used in financing activities:</b>		
Dividends paid - Common Shares and RSUs	(7.9)	(13.1)
Borrowings under the Credit Facility	4.0	—
Repayment of borrowings under the Credit Facility	—	—
<b>Net cash and cash equivalents used in financing activities</b>	<b>(3.9)</b>	<b>(13.1)</b>
<b>Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents during the period</b>	<b>(3.8)</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period	6.0	4.7
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - end of period</b>	<b>\$ 2.2</b>	<b>\$ 6.0</b>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, including Note 11, which describes certain related party transactions.



## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*****Basis of Presentation and Overview***

Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. (the "Company" or the "Registrant") is a Bermuda exempted limited liability company that, through its subsidiaries (collectively "Blue Capital"), provides collateralized reinsurance in the property catastrophe market and invests in various insurance-linked securities. The Company was incorporated under the laws of Bermuda on June 24, 2013, commenced operations on November 12, 2013. The Company's headquarters and principal executive offices are located at Waterloo House, 100 Pitts Bay Road, Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda, which is also our registered office.

The Company's consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. ("GAAP"). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported and disclosed amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues earned and expenses incurred during the period. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates. The significant estimates reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, loss and loss adjustment expense ("LAE") reserves and written and earned reinsurance premiums.

The Company's Common Shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BCRH" and on the Bermuda Stock Exchange under the symbol "BCRH.BH."

At December 31, 2018, Sampo International together with its wholly owned subsidiary, Endurance Specialty Insurance Ltd. ("Endurance Bermuda"), owned 33.2% of the Company's outstanding Common Shares. Sampo Holdings, Inc. is the ultimate beneficial owner of 33.2% of the Company's outstanding Common Shares through its ownership of Sampo International.

The Company operates as a single business segment through its wholly-owned subsidiaries: (i) Blue Capital Re Ltd. ("Blue Capital Re"), a Bermuda Class 3A insurer, which provides collateralized reinsurance; and (ii) Blue Capital Re ILS Ltd. ("Blue Capital Re ILS"), a Bermuda exempted limited liability company, which conducts hedging and other investment activities, including entering into industry loss warranties and related instruments, in support of Blue Capital Re's operations.

The Company's business strategy is to build and maintain a diversified portfolio of reinsurance risks that are intended to generate underwriting profits, which it intends principally to distribute to its shareholders through the payment of dividends, with returns commensurate with the amount of risk assumed. The Company seeks to provide its shareholders with the opportunity to own an alternative asset class whose returns are believed to have historically been largely uncorrelated to those of other asset classes, such as global equities and bonds. Subject to the discretion of the Company's board of directors (the "Board"), the Company intends to distribute through dividends or repurchases of Common Shares a minimum of 90% of its annual Distributable Income to its holders of Common Shares and RSUs.

"Distributable Income," a non-GAAP measure, means GAAP net income plus (minus) non-cash expenses (revenues) recorded in net income for the period. Subject to the discretion of the Board, the Company intends to make regular quarterly dividend payments for each of the first three quarters of each year, followed by Common Share repurchases or a fourth special dividend after the end of the year to meet its income distribution target for each calendar year.

Through each of the following roles and relationships, Blue Capital leverages Sampo International's reinsurance underwriting expertise and infrastructure to conduct its business: (i) Blue Capital Management Ltd. (the "Manager"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sampo International, manages Blue Capital Re's and Blue Capital Re ILS' reinsurance underwriting decisions; (ii) Blue Water Re Ltd., Sampo International's wholly-owned special purpose insurance and reinsurance vehicle, is a significant source of reinsurance business for Blue Capital Re; and (iii) certain employees of Sampo International also serve as the Company's Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO"), the Company's Chief Financial Officer (the "CFO"), and as two of the Company's five directors, including the role of Chairman of the Board.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, cont'd**

The Company qualifies as a "smaller reporting company" as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933; Item 10(f) of Regulation S-K; and Rule 12b-2 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. As a result, the Company is allowed to provide scaled disclosures under Regulations S-K and Regulation S-X.

***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Blue Capital's cash and cash equivalents of \$2.2 million and \$6.0 million at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, consist of cash and fixed income investments with maturities of less than three months, as measured from the date of purchase. For all periods presented, the amortized cost of each of Blue Capital's cash equivalents approximated their fair value.

***Amounts Held in Trust for the Benefit of Ceding Companies***

Blue Capital Re does not operate with a financial strength rating and, instead, fully collateralizes its reinsurance obligations through cash and cash equivalents held in various trust funds established for the benefit of ceding companies.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital had pledged none of its cash and cash equivalents to trust accounts established for the benefit of third parties.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital had transferred \$150.4 million and \$164.8 million of its cash and cash equivalents to a trust account established by Blue Water Re for its benefit pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement (see below). These amounts are presented on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets as "funds held by ceding companies."

***Reinsurance Premiums and Acquisition Costs***

Blue Capital Re writes reinsurance contracts on both an excess-of-loss and a pro-rata basis. For excess-of-loss contracts, written premiums are typically based on the deposit or minimum premium specified in the reinsurance contract. For pro-rata contracts, written premiums are recognized based on estimates of ultimate premiums provided by either the ceding companies or the Manager.

All of Blue Capital Re's reinsurance contracts are currently being written on a losses-occurring basis, which means that all loss events occurring during the period of the contract are covered, regardless of the inception dates of the underlying policies. Any loss events occurring after the expiration of a losses-occurring contract are not covered.

For reinsurance contracts which incorporate minimum premium amounts, Blue Capital Re typically writes the entire ultimate premium at inception, and earns the associated premium after the premium is written over the term of the contract. For reinsurance contracts which do not incorporate minimum premium amounts, Blue Capital Re typically writes the premium over the term of the contract, and earns the associated premium in the same periods that the premium is written.

Subsequent adjustments of written premium, based on reports of actual premium by the ceding companies, or revisions in estimates of ultimate premium, are recorded in the period in which they are determined. Such adjustments are generally determined after the associated risk periods have expired, in which case the premium adjustments are fully earned when written.

Unearned reinsurance premiums represent the portion of premiums written that are applicable to future reinsurance coverage provided by in-force contracts.

Reinsurance premiums receivable are recorded at amounts due less any provision for doubtful accounts. As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital Re did not require a provision for doubtful accounts.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, cont'd**

When a reinsurance contract provides for a reinstatement of coverage following a covered loss, the associated reinstatement premiums are recorded as both written and earned when Blue Capital Re determines that such a loss event has occurred.

Deferred reinsurance acquisition costs are comprised of commissions, brokerage costs, premium taxes and excise taxes, each of which relates directly to the writing of reinsurance contracts. Deferred reinsurance acquisition costs are typically amortized over the underlying risk period of the related contracts. However, if the sum of a contract's expected losses and LAE and deferred reinsurance acquisition costs exceeds related unearned premiums and any projected investment income, a premium deficiency is determined to exist. In this event, deferred reinsurance acquisition costs are immediately expensed to the extent necessary to eliminate the premium deficiency. If the premium deficiency exceeds deferred reinsurance acquisition costs, a liability is accrued for the excess deficiency. There were no premium deficiency adjustments recognized during the periods presented.

Profit commissions incurred are included in reinsurance acquisition costs within the Company's Consolidated Statement of Loss and Comprehensive Loss. Accrued profit commissions payable are included in reinsurance balances payable within the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.

***Reinsurance Balances Payable***

Reinsurance balances payable consist of: (i) losses and LAE that have been approved for payment; and (ii) profit commissions payable.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital Re had reinsurance balances payable of \$16.4 million and \$10.1 million, respectively.

***Ceded Reinsurance***

In the normal course of business, Blue Capital Re may purchase reinsurance directly or elect to participate in inuring reinsurance or retrocessional protection made available by its ceding companies. The amount of reinsurance that Blue Capital Re may buy or participate in will vary from year to year depending on its risk appetite, as well as the availability and cost of the reinsurance coverage. Ceded reinsurance premiums will be accounted for on a basis consistent with those used in accounting for the underlying reinsurance premiums assumed and will be reported as a reduction of net reinsurance premiums written and earned.

Under Blue Capital Re's reinsurance security policy, its reinsurers are typically required to be rated "A-" (Excellent) or better by A.M. Best (or an equivalent rating with another recognized rating agency) at the time the policy is written. Blue Capital Re also considers reinsurers that are not rated or do not fall within this threshold on a case-by-case basis if collateralized up to policy limits, net of any premiums owed. The Manager will monitor the financial condition and ratings of Blue Capital's reinsurers on an ongoing basis.

As of December 31, 2018, Blue Capital Re has never purchased any reinsurance. For all periods presented, all of the ceded reinsurance protection underlying Blue Capital Re's results was originated pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement.

***Derivative Instruments***

Current accounting guidance requires the recognition of all derivative financial instruments including embedded derivative instruments, as either assets or liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value.

The Company participates in derivative instruments in the form of industry loss warranty swaps as a way to access or hedge certain risks. Derivatives are recorded at fair value with changes in fair value and any gains or losses recognized in net gain (loss) from derivative instruments in the Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, cont'd*****Fair Value Hierarchy***

GAAP establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of certain assets and liabilities into the three broad levels described below. 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. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date, Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, and Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs (i.e., on the basis of pricing models with significant unobservable inputs or non-binding broker quotes) for the asset or liability.

**NOTE 2. Loss and LAE Reserve Movements**

The following table summarizes Blue Capital Re's loss and LAE reserve movements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 :

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended	
	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Gross and net unpaid loss and LAE reserves - beginning	\$ 43.4	\$ 11.1
Losses and LAE incurred:		
Current year losses	31.5	77.9
Prior year losses	19.0	1.1
Total incurred losses and LAE	50.5	79.0
Losses and LAE paid and approved for payment:		
Current year losses	(13.6)	(40.4)
Prior year losses	(30.4)	(6.3)
Total losses and LAE paid and approved for payment	(44.0)	(46.7)
Gross and net unpaid loss and LAE reserves - ending	\$ 49.9	\$ 43.4

Loss and LAE reserves are comprised of case reserves (which are based on claims that have been reported) and incurred but not reported ("IBNR") reserves (which are based on losses that are believed to have occurred but for which claims have not yet been reported and may include a provision for expected future development on existing case reserves). Case reserves are set on the basis of loss reports received from third parties. IBNR reserves are estimated by management using various actuarial methods as well as a combination of the Manager's own loss experience, historical industry loss experience and management and the Manager's professional judgment.

The uncertainties inherent in the reserving process and potential delays by cedants and brokers in the reporting of loss information, together with the potential for unforeseen adverse developments, may result in loss and LAE reserves ultimately being significantly greater or less than the reserve provided at the end of any given reporting period. The degree of uncertainty is further increased when a significant loss event takes place near the end of a reporting period. Estimated ultimate losses for Hurricane Michael, Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Jebi, and the California fires which occurred in the latter half of 2018 are subject to particularly high uncertainty, as the large magnitude and recent occurrence of these events make damages particularly difficult to assess. In addition, there is a great deal of uncertainty regarding the extent to which judicial and regulatory rulings will cause uncovered perils, such as flood, to be covered by the ceding companies, which further increases the uncertainty around the ultimate loss estimates. Loss and LAE reserve estimates are regularly reviewed and updated as new information becomes known. Any resulting adjustments are reflected in income in the period in which they become known.

Blue Capital Re's reserving process is highly dependent on loss information received from its cedants and the Manager.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 2. Loss and LAE Reserve Movements, cont'd**

During 2018, Blue Capital Re's estimated ultimate loss for prior period accident years was increased by \$19.0 million due to the emergence of claims exceeding previous estimates of losses and LAE related to 2017 catastrophe events, primarily Hurricane Irma, which made landfall in the U.S. in September 2017. During 2017, Blue Capital Re's estimated ultimate loss for prior period accident years was increased by \$1.1 million due to the emergence of claims in excess of amounts previously estimated on a number of events occurring in 2016, partially offset by a reduction in loss estimates for 2014 and 2015 accident years.

The Company's loss and LAE reserves are generally derived from property catastrophe reinsurance contracts which provide protection to the ceding company against losses from earthquakes and hurricanes, as well as other natural and man-made catastrophes such as floods, tornadoes, storms and fires ("covered perils"). The predominant exposures covered by these contracts are losses stemming from property damage and business interruption resulting from a covered peril. The reinsurance contracts that the Company participates in have broadly similar characteristics including the type of coverage, market and claim duration and we operate as a single business segment. As such, the following information is not disaggregated beyond the segment level and is not obscured by either the inclusion of a large amount of insignificant detail or the aggregation of items that have significantly different characteristics.

*Claims Development Tables*

The following tables show the development of the reserve for losses and LAE by accident year at December 31, 2018. Information presented for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 is required supplementary information and is unaudited.

<b>Cumulative incurred losses and allocated LAE</b>						
<b>For the years ended December 31,</b>						
<b>Accident year</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	
2014	\$ 17.1	\$ 16.5	\$ 16.5	\$ 16.0	\$ 15.9	
2015	—	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.9	
2016	—	—	13.7	15.6	14.5	
2017	—	—	—	77.9	98.1	
2018	—	—	—	—	31.5	
Total						\$ 162.9
<b>Cumulative paid losses and allocated LAE</b>						
<b>For the years ended December 31,</b>						
<b>Accident year</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	
2014	\$ 9.2	\$ 14.5	\$ 15.5	\$ 15.7	\$ 15.8	
2015	—	1.2	2.1	2.7	2.8	
2016	—	—	4.7	10.2	12.1	
2017	—	—	—	40.4	68.7	
2018	—	—	—	—	13.6	
Total						\$ 113.0
Total loss and LAE reserves at December 31, 2018						\$ 49.9

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 2. Loss and LAE Reserve Movements, cont'd***IBNR Reserves and Claims Frequency*

The following table shows Blue Capital Re's incurred losses and LAE, IBNR reserves and cumulative number of reported claims by accident year as of December 31, 2018. A claim is defined as a reported loss from a cedant on an excess-of-loss reinsurance contract arising from a loss event for which the Company records a paid loss or case reserve. The claim frequency data excludes reported claim activity from pro-rata reinsurance contracts where losses are reported to the Company through periodic accounts and it is therefore impracticable to determine the frequency of reported claims.

As of December 31, 2018					
Accident Year	Incurred losses and allocated loss adjustment expenses	Total IBNR plus expected development on reported claims (U.S dollars in millions)	Cumulative number of reported claims		
2014	\$ 15.9	\$ —	6		
2015	2.9	—	4		
2016	14.5	1.0	10		
2017	98.1	10.7	55		
2018	31.5	13.4	5		

*Significant Changes in Methodologies and Assumptions*

The Company incorporates a variety of actuarial methods and judgments in its reserving process. Two key inputs in the various actuarial methods employed by the Company are initial expected loss ratios and expected loss reporting patterns. These key inputs impact the potential variability in the estimate of the reserve for losses and LAE. The Company's loss and LAE reserves consider and reflect, in part, deviations resulting from differences between expected loss and actual loss reporting as well as judgments relating to the weights applied to the reserve levels indicated by the actuarial methods. Expected loss reporting patterns are based upon internal and external historical data and assumptions regarding claims reporting trends over a period of time that extends beyond the Company's own operating history.

Differences between actual reported losses and expected losses are anticipated to occur in any individual period and such deviations may influence future initial expected loss ratios and/or expected loss reporting patterns as recent actual experience becomes part of the historical data utilized as part of the ongoing reserve estimation process.

For the year ended December 31, 2018, as part of the Company's periodic review of key inputs and parameters it uses to establish its reserve for losses and LAE and in order to recognize accumulated historical experience and other relevant industry information, the Company made minor adjustments to the loss reporting patterns used. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company did not materially alter initial expected loss ratios for the relevant reinsurance reserve categories. There have been no other significant changes to methodologies and assumptions.

*Claims Duration*

The following table shows the historical average annual percentage payout of incurred claims for Blue Capital Re, by age as of December 31, 2018. This information is presented as required supplemental information and is unaudited.

Average annual percentage payout of incurred claims by age					
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
44.9%	34.2%	11.3%	2.9%	0.8%	

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 3. Written and Earned Reinsurance Premiums**

Written premiums represent business bound from ceding companies and net earned premiums represent the portion of net premiums written (gross premiums written less any ceded reinsurance) which is recognized as revenue over the period of time that coverage is provided. See Note 1.

Blue Capital seeks to diversify its exposure across geographic zones around the world in order to obtain a prudent spread of risk. The spread of these exposures is also a function of market conditions and opportunities.

The following table sets forth a breakdown of Blue Capital's gross reinsurance premiums written by geographic area of risks insured for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended		Year Ended	
	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
Worldwide <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 28.9	87%	\$ 36.3	78%
USA:				
Nationwide	0.8	2%	2.1	4%
Florida	1.9	6%	4.9	10%
Gulf region	0.5	1%	0.7	2%
California	—	—%	0.3	1%
Midwest region and other	0.5	2%	0.3	1%
Northeast	—	—%	0.3	1%
Mid-Atlantic region	—	—%	0.3	1%
Worldwide, excluding U.S. <sup>(2)</sup>	0.6	2%	0.9	2%
Total gross premiums written	\$ 33.2	100%	\$ 46.1	100%

(1) "Worldwide" comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area and do not specifically exclude the U.S.

(2) "Worldwide, excluding U.S." comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area but specifically exclude the U.S.

The following table sets forth a breakdown of Blue Capital's net reinsurance premiums earned by geographic area of risks insured for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended		Year Ended	
	December 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
Worldwide <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 28.9	86%	\$ 35.8	77%
USA:				
Nationwide	0.8	2%	2.1	4%
Florida	2.0	6%	5.4	11%
Gulf region	0.5	2%	0.7	2%
California	—	—%	0.3	1%
Midwest region and other	0.5	2%	0.3	1%
Northeast	0.1	—%	0.2	1%
Mid-Atlantic region	—	—%	0.3	1%
Worldwide, excluding U.S. <sup>(2)</sup>	0.6	2%	0.9	2%
Total net premiums earned	\$ 33.4	100%	\$ 46.0	100%

(1) "Worldwide" comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area and do not specifically exclude the U.S.

(2) "Worldwide, excluding U.S." comprises reinsurance contracts that cover risks in more than one geographic area but specifically exclude the U.S.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
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**NOTE 4. Derivative Instruments*****Outward ILW Swaps***

In March 2017 and June 2017, Blue Capital Re ILS entered into various ILW swaps (the "2017 Outward ILW Swaps") with third-parties in order to purchase protection against natural catastrophes across multiple geographic zones from March 2017 to March 2018. In return for fixed payments totaling \$2.0 million, Blue Capital Re ILS is entitled to receive floating payments in the event of certain losses incurred by the insurance industry as a whole. The maximum aggregate potential recovery to Blue Capital Re ILS from the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps is \$9.0 million.

As a result of catastrophe events occurring during 2017, a recovery was triggered on the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps resulting in the settlement of \$4.7 million to Blue Capital Re ILS.

The 2017 Outward ILW Swaps are valued on the basis of modeling developed by the Manager, which represents unobservable (Level 3) inputs. At expiry, there were no additional industry loss events occurring which would have triggered a recovery under the 2017 Outward ILW Swaps.

In April 2016, Blue Capital Re ILS entered into various outward ILW swaps (the "2016 Outward ILW Swaps") with third parties in order to purchase protection against natural catastrophes across multiple geographic zones from April 2016 to April 2017. In return for fixed payments totaling \$2.0 million, Blue Capital Re ILS was entitled to receive floating payments in the event of certain losses incurred by the insurance industry as a whole. The maximum aggregate recovery to Blue Capital Re ILS from the 2016 Outward ILW Swaps was \$9.0 million. At expiry, there were no industry loss events occurring which would have triggered a recovery under the 2016 Outward ILW Swaps.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, Blue Capital Re ILS recognized a loss from derivative instruments of less than \$0.1 million pursuant to the Outward ILW Swaps. During the year ended December 31, 2017, Blue Capital Re ILS recognized a gain from derivative instruments of \$2.3 million pursuant to the Outward ILW Swaps.

**NOTE 5. Shareholders' Equity*****Common Shares***

The Company's share capital consists of Common Shares with a \$1.00 par value per share. Holders of Common Shares are entitled to one vote for each share held. As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company had 8,767,165 and 8,761,229 Common Shares outstanding, respectively.

During 2018 and 2017, the Company issued a total of 5,936 and 5,158 Common Shares, respectively, in satisfaction of vested restricted share unit ("RSU") obligations. See Note 8.

***Dividends to Holders of Common Shares and RSUs***

The Company declared and paid quarterly cash dividends of \$0.30 per Common Share and RSU during each of the first three quarters of the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017. In addition, in February 2017, the Company declared a special dividend with respect to its 2016 Distributable Income of \$0.59 per Common Share and RSU. The total amount of such dividends declared and paid during 2018 and 2017 was \$7.9 million and \$13.1 million, respectively. Dividends declared in 2018 are recorded as a deduction to additional paid-in capital within total shareholders' equity due to the Company maintaining a retained deficit throughout the period.

There are restrictions on the payment of dividends by the Company, Blue Capital Re and Blue Capital Re ILS. See Note 10. Any future determination to pay dividends to holders of Common Shares and RSUs will be at the discretion of the Board and will be dependent upon many factors, including the Company's results of operations, cash flows, financial position, capital requirements, general business opportunities, and legal, regulatory and contractual restrictions.



## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 5. Shareholders' Equity, cont'd****Common Share Repurchase Authorization**

As of December 31, 2018, the Board of Directors of the Company have authorized the repurchase of up to a total of 500,000 ordinary shares in open market or privately negotiated transactions, from time to time, depending on market conditions. The new share repurchase authorization continues through July 31, 2019. The Company did not purchase any shares or share equivalents during the year ended December 31, 2018.

**NOTE 6. Basic and Diluted Earnings Per Common Share**

The Company applies the two-class method of calculating its earnings per Common Share. In applying the two-class method, any outstanding RSUs are considered to be participating securities. See Note 8. For all periods presented in which RSUs were outstanding, the two-class method was used to determine basic and diluted earnings per Common Share since this method yielded a more dilutive result than the treasury stock method.

For purposes of determining basic and diluted earnings per Common Share, a portion of net income is allocated to outstanding RSUs, which serves to reduce the Company's earnings per Common Share numerators. Net losses are not allocated to outstanding RSUs and, therefore, do not impact the Company's loss per Common Share numerators.

The following table outlines the Company's computation of its basic and diluted loss per Common Share for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017:

(\$ in millions)	Year Ended December 31, 2018	Year Ended December 31, 2017
Net loss	\$ (28.6)	\$ (43.2)
Less: net loss allocated to participating securities (1)	—	—
Net loss per Common Share numerator	\$ (28.6)	\$ (43.2)
Average Common Shares outstanding (in thousands of shares)	8,764	8,759
<b>Basic and diluted loss per Common Share</b>	<b>\$ (3.27)</b>	<b>\$ (4.94)</b>

(1) For all periods presented, there were no earnings allocated to participating securities since the Company incurred a net loss.

**NOTE 7. Credit Facility**

On May 6, 2016, the Company entered into a credit facility (the "2016 Credit Facility") with Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd. (the "Lender"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International. The 2016 Credit Facility provides the Company with an unsecured \$20.0 million revolving credit facility for working capital and general corporate purpose. Borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility bear interest, set at the time of the borrowing, at a rate equal to the applicable LIBOR rate plus 150 basis points. A one-time fee of \$20,000 was due to the Lender in connection with establishing the 2016 Credit Facility. The 2016 Credit Facility was amended on July 31, 2018 to extend its expiry to September 30, 2020 under identical terms. On December 31, 2018, Endurance Investment Holdings Ltd. was merged into its parent, Endurance Bermuda, and the obligations of the Lender were assumed by Endurance Bermuda.

The 2016 Credit Facility contains covenants that limit the Company's ability, among other things, to grant liens on its assets, sell assets, merge or consolidate, or incur debt. If the Company fails to comply with any of these covenants, the Lender could revoke the facility and exercise remedies against the Company.

In addition, in the event of a default in the performance of any of the agreements or covenants under certain management agreements with the Manager by the Company, the Lender has the right to terminate the 2016 Credit Facility. As of December 31, 2018, the Company was in compliance with all of its respective covenants associated with the 2016 Credit Facility.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 7. Credit Facility, cont'd**

On October 8, 2018, the Company borrowed \$3.0 million under the 2016 Credit Facility. On December 21, 2018, the Company borrowed a further \$1.0 million under the 2016 Credit Facility to support general corporate expense obligations for the period. As of December 31, 2018, the Company had \$4.0 million outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facilities. At December 31, 2017, the Company had no outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facilities.

During the year ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company paid interest on its borrowings under the Credit Facilities of less than \$0.1 million and nil, respectively.

During the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company did not incur any facility or structuring fees in connection with the 2016 Credit Facility.

**NOTE 8. Share-Based Compensation**

The Company's 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2013 LTIP"), which was adopted by the Board in September 2013, permits the issuance of up to one percent of the aggregate Common Shares outstanding to participants. Incentive awards that may be granted under the 2013 LTIP include RSUs, restricted Common Shares, incentive share options (on a limited basis), non-qualified share options, share appreciation rights, deferred share units, performance compensation awards, performance units, cash incentive awards and other equity-based and equity-related awards.

At the discretion of the Board's Compensation and Nominating Committee, incentive awards, the value of which are based on Common Shares, may be made to the Company's directors, future employees and consultants pursuant to the 2013 LTIP. For all periods presented, the Company's outstanding share-based incentive awards consisted solely of RSUs.

RSUs are phantom (as opposed to actual) Common Shares which, depending on the individual award, vest in equal tranches over a one to five-year period, subject to the recipient maintaining a continuous relationship with the Company through the applicable vesting date. RSUs are payable in Common Shares upon vesting (the amount of which may be reduced by applicable statutory income tax withholdings at the recipient's option). RSUs do not require the payment of an exercise price and are not entitled to voting rights, but they are entitled to receive payments equivalent to any dividends and distributions declared on the Common Shares underlying the RSUs.

During 2018, the Company awarded a total of 10,640 RSUs (2017: 6,540) to its directors. The RSUs earn ratably each year based on continued service as a director over a three-year vesting period. The grant date fair value of the RSUs was \$0.1 million (2017: \$0.1 million). In determining the grant date fair value associated with the RSUs, the Company assumed a forfeiture rate of zero. The forfeiture assumption associated with the RSUs may be adjusted, if necessary, based on future experience.

During 2018, 5,936 (2017 - 5,158) of the RSUs vested. The fair value of the vesting RSUs was \$0.1 million (2017 - \$0.1 million). See Note 5.

During 2018, no RSUs were forfeited (2017 - 2,352).

During the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company recognized \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million of RSU expense, respectively. The Company expects to incur future RSU expense associated with its currently outstanding RSUs of less than \$0.1 million during each of 2019, 2020 and 2021.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, there were 16,892 and 12,188 RSUs outstanding under the 2013 LTIP, respectively.

**NOTE 9. Income Taxes**

The Company and its subsidiaries are domiciled in Bermuda and each have received an assurance from the Bermuda government exempting them from all local income, withholding and capital gains taxes until March 31, 2035. At the present time, no such taxes are levied in Bermuda.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 9. Income Taxes, cont'd**

The Company and its subsidiaries intend to conduct substantially all of their operations in Bermuda in a manner such that they will not be engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. However, because there is no definitive authority regarding activities that constitute being engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. for federal income tax purposes, the Company cannot assure that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service will not contend, perhaps successfully, that the Company or any of its subsidiaries is engaged in a trade or business in the U.S. A foreign corporation deemed to be so engaged would be subject to U.S. federal income tax, as well as branch profits tax, on its income that is treated as effectively connected with the conduct of that trade or business unless the corporation is entitled to relief under an applicable tax treaty.

**NOTE 10. Regulation and Capital Requirements**

Blue Capital Re is registered under the Insurance Act 1978 of Bermuda and related regulations, as amended (the "Insurance Act"), as a Class 3A insurer. Class 3A insurers benefit from an expedited application process, less regulatory stringency and minimal capital and surplus requirements. As a result of the approvals received from the Bermuda Monetary Authority (the "BMA") and the terms of Blue Capital Re's business plan, Blue Capital Re's reinsurance contracts must be fully-collateralized.

The Insurance Act limits the maximum amount of annual dividends and distributions that may be paid by Blue Capital Re and provides that the value of the assets of an insurer must exceed the value of its liabilities by an amount greater than its prescribed minimum solvency margin. If Blue Capital Re were to fail to meet its minimum solvency margin on the last day of any financial year, it would be prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends during the next financial year without the approval of the BMA.

Blue Capital Re's minimum solvency margin has been set by the BMA to be \$1.0 million at all times, so long as: (i) Blue Capital Re only enters into contracts of reinsurance that are fully collateralized; and (ii) each transaction represents no material deviation from the original business plan filed with BMA at the time of Blue Capital Re's registration.

The Insurance Act also limits the maximum amount of annual dividends and distributions that may be paid by Blue Capital Re. As a result of the net losses recorded in 2018 and 2017, until such time as Blue Capital Re extinguishes its retained deficit position, the payment of dividends are subject to return of capital restrictions. Blue Capital Re may not reduce its total statutory capital by 15% or more, as set out in its previous year's financial statements, unless it has received the prior approval of the BMA. Total statutory capital consists of Blue Capital Re's paid in share capital, its contributed surplus (sometimes called additional paid in capital) and any other fixed capital designated by the BMA as statutory capital. Annual distributions that would result in a reduction of Blue Capital Re's prior year-end balance of combined statutory capital and surplus by more than 25% requires the approval of the BMA.

With respect to the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital Re had the ability to pay dividends of up to \$22.6 million and \$23.9 million to its parent without BMA approval.

The Insurance Act further provides a minimum liquidity ratio and requires general business insurers and reinsurers to maintain the value of their relevant assets at not less than 75% of the amount of their relevant liabilities. Blue Capital Re exceeded its minimum liquidity requirements at December 31, 2018 and 2017 by \$112.0 million and \$141.9 million, respectively.

Blue Capital Re's 2018 and 2017 statutory net loss was \$25.0 million and \$38.5 million, respectively. Blue Capital Re's statutory capital and surplus at December 31, 2018 and 2017 was \$92.6 million and \$126.7 million, respectively.

The Bermuda Companies Act 1981, as amended, also limits the Company's, Blue Capital Re's and Blue Capital Re ILS' ability to pay dividends and make distributions to its shareholders. None of the Company, Blue Capital Re or Blue Capital Re ILS is permitted to declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus, if it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or if the realizable value of its assets would be less than its liabilities.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 11. Related Party Transactions**

Through each of the following roles and relationships, Blue Capital leverages Sompo International's reinsurance underwriting expertise and infrastructure to conduct its business: (i) the Manager, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sompo International, manages Blue Capital Re's and Blue Capital Re ILS' reinsurance underwriting decisions; (ii) Blue Water Re is a significant source of reinsurance business for Blue Capital Re; (iii) Sompo International's Chief Financial Officer is the Manager's Chief Executive Officer and serves as the Company's Chairman of the Board and CEO; (iv) the Manager's Treasurer serves as the Company's CFO; and (v) Sompo International's General Counsel and director of the Manager serves as the Company's Secretary and a director.

All of the compensation that employees of Sompo International are entitled to as directors of the Company is assigned directly to Sompo International.

As of December 31, 2018, Sompo International owned 33.2% of the Company's outstanding Common Shares.

***Services Provided to Blue Capital by Sompo International***

Sompo International provides services to Blue Capital through the following arrangements:

*BW Retrocessional Agreement.* Through a retrocessional contract dated December 31, 2013 (the "BW Retrocessional Agreement"), between Blue Capital Re and Blue Water Re, Blue Water Re has the option to cede to Blue Capital Re up to 100% of its participation in the reinsurance business it writes, provided that such business is in accordance with the Company's underwriting guidelines.

Pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, Blue Capital Re may participate in: (i) retrocessional, quota share or other agreements between Blue Water Re and Sompo International or other third-party reinsurers, which provides it with the opportunity to participate in a diversified portfolio of risks on a proportional basis; (ii) fronting agreements between Blue Water Re and Endurance or other well capitalized third-party rated reinsurers, which allows Blue Capital Re to transact business with counterparties who prefer to enter into contracts with rated reinsurers; and (iii) ceded reinsurance or retrocessional protection.

For all periods presented, all of the reinsurance business of Blue Capital Re was originated pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement.

*Investment Management Agreement.* The Company has entered into an Investment Management Agreement with the Manager. Pursuant to the terms of the Investment Management Agreement, the Manager has full discretionary authority, including the delegation of the provision of its services, to manage the Company's assets, subject to the Company's underwriting guidelines, the terms of the Investment Management Agreement and the oversight of the Board.

*Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.* The Company, Blue Capital Re and the Manager have entered into an Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement (the "Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement"). Pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement, the Manager provides underwriting, risk management, claims management, ceded retrocession agreements management and actuarial and reinsurance accounting services to Blue Capital Re. The Manager has full discretionary authority to manage the underwriting decisions of Blue Capital Re, subject to the Company's underwriting guidelines, the terms of the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement and the oversight of the Company's and Blue Capital Re's boards of directors.

*Administrative Services Agreement.* The Company has entered into an Administrative Services Agreement with the Manager, as amended on November 13, 2014 (the "Administrative Services Agreement"). Pursuant to the terms of the Administrative Services Agreement, the Manager provides Blue Capital with support services, including the services of our CFO, as well as finance and accounting, internal audit, claims management and policy wording, modeling software licenses, office space, information technology, human resources and administrative support.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)

**NOTE 11. Related Party Transactions, cont'd*****Fees Incurred Pursuant to the Aforementioned Agreements***

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company incurred general and administrative expenses of \$1.8 million pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, \$0.6 million pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement and nil pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company incurred general and administrative expenses of \$2.4 million pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, \$0.6 million pursuant to the Administrative Services Agreement and \$0.4 million pursuant to the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement.

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the Company owed Somo International \$1.0 million and \$0.7 million for the services performed pursuant to the aforementioned agreements, respectively.

**NOTE 12. Commitments and Contingent Liabilities*****Commitments***

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, Blue Capital had no commitments for operating leases or capital expenditures and does not expect any material expenditures of this type during the foreseeable future.

The Company and its subsidiaries may not terminate the Investment Management Agreement, the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement or the Administrative Services Agreement other than at three year intervals, whether or not the Manager's performance results are satisfactory. Upon any termination or non-renewal of either of the Investment Management Agreement or the Underwriting and Insurance Management Agreement (other than for a material breach by, or the insolvency of, the Manager), the Company must pay a one-time termination fee to the Manager equal to 5% of its GAAP shareholders' equity (approximately \$4.5 million as of December 31, 2018).

***Litigation***

Blue Capital Re, pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, previously provided for a reinsurance recovery through its participation in an Industry Loss Warranty protection purchased by Blue Water Re. The counterparty to the Industry Loss Warranty disputed the claim for the recovery, which was based upon the size of an insured industry loss calculated based upon third-party data.

In June 2018, Blue Capital Re ILS, together with two other vehicles managed by the Manager, commenced legal proceedings against certain parties relating to the purchase by Blue Capital Re ILS of a parametric insurance product called an Industry Parametric Protection that provided coverage if the sustained wind speed during a hurricane or tropical storm exceeded a pre-selected trigger.

In February 2019, the parties involved in the disputes described above reached an agreement to resolve all matters and withdraw the pending claims. The impact of the settlement has been considered in the determination of recording the Company's best estimate of loss and LAE reserves as of December 31, 2018.

In addition to the disputes described above, Blue Capital Re, as a reinsurer, is subject to litigation and arbitration proceedings in the normal course of its business. Such proceedings often involve reinsurance contract disputes which are typical for the reinsurance industry. Blue Capital Re's estimates of possible losses incurred in connection with such legal proceedings are provided for as "loss and loss adjustment expenses" on its Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Loss and Comprehensive Loss and are included within "loss and loss adjustment expense reserves" on its Consolidated Balance Sheets. We determine whether an estimated loss from a contingency should be accrued by assessing whether a loss is deemed probable and can be reasonably estimated. We assess our potential liability by analyzing our litigation and regulatory matters using available information. We develop our views on estimated losses in consultation with outside counsel handling our defense in these matters, which involves an analysis of potential results, assuming a combination of litigation and settlement strategies.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Expressed in millions of United States Dollars,  
except per share amounts or as otherwise noted)**

**NOTE 12. Commitments and Contingent Liabilities, Cont'd**

Should developments in any of these matters cause a change in our determination as to an unfavorable outcome and result in the need to recognize a material accrual, or should any of these matters result in a final adverse judgment or be settled for significant amounts, they could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and financial position in the period or periods in which such change in determination, judgment or settlement occurs.

***Concentrations of Credit and Counterparty Risk***

Blue Capital Re ILS' derivative instruments are subject to counterparty risk. The Company and the Manager routinely monitor this risk.

Blue Water Re markets retrocessional and reinsurance policies worldwide through brokers. Credit risk exists at Blue Capital Re, pursuant to the BW Retrocessional Agreement, to the extent that any of these brokers is unable to fulfill its contractual obligations to Blue Water Re. For example, Blue Water Re is required to pay amounts owed on claims under policies to brokers, and these brokers, in turn, pay these amounts to the ceding companies that have reinsured a portion of their liabilities with Blue Water Re. In some jurisdictions, if a broker fails to make such a payment, Blue Water Re and Blue Capital Re might remain liable to the ceding company for the deficiency. In addition, in certain jurisdictions, when the ceding company pays premiums for these policies to brokers, these premiums are considered to have been paid and the ceding insurer is no longer liable to Blue Water Re for those amounts, whether or not the premiums have actually been received.

Blue Capital Re remains liable for losses it incurs to the extent that any third-party reinsurer is unable or unwilling to make timely payments under reinsurance agreements. Blue Capital Re would also be liable in the event that its ceding companies were unable to collect amounts due from underlying third-party reinsurers.

**NOTE 13. Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

GAAP requires disclosure of fair value information for certain financial instruments. For those financial instruments in which quoted market prices are not available, fair values are estimated by discounting future cash flows using current market rates or quoted market prices for similar obligations. These estimates are not necessarily indicative of amounts that could be realized in a current market exchange. Blue Capital carries its assets and liabilities that constitute financial instruments on its Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value with the exception of its debt. See Note 4.

At December 31, 2018, the fair value of the Company's outstanding borrowings under the 2016 Credit Facility, which must be repaid in early 2019, approximated their carrying value of \$4.0 million. See Note 7.

## **MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements included in this report. The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Audit Committee of the Board, which is comprised entirely of independent, qualified directors, is responsible for the oversight of our accounting policies, financial reporting and internal control, including the appointment and compensation of our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee meets periodically with management and our independent registered public accounting firm to ensure they are carrying out their responsibilities. The Audit Committee is also responsible for performing an oversight role by reviewing our financial reports. Our independent registered public accounting firm has full and unlimited access to the Audit Committee, with or without management present, to discuss the adequacy of internal control over financial reporting and any other matters which they believe should be brought to their attention.

**SUBSIDIARIES OF THE REGISTRANT  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**FULL NAME OF SUBSIDIARY**

**PLACE OF INCORPORATION**

BLUE CAPITAL RE LTD.  
BLUE CAPITAL RE ILS LTD.

BERMUDA  
BERMUDA



**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-196609) pertaining to the 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. of our reports dated March 1, 2019, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. included in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2018.

/s/Ernst & Young Ltd.  
Hamilton, Bermuda  
March 1, 2019

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULES 13a-14(a) OR 15d-14(a)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED**

I, Michael J. McGuire, Chief Executive Officer of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 1, 2019

By:

/s/ Michael J. McGuire

Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULES 13a-14(a) OR 15d-14(a)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED**

I, Greg A. Garside, Chief Financial Officer of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation;
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

March 1, 2019

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By:

/s/ Greg A. Garside

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer & Principal Accounting Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

In connection with the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. (the “registrant”), for the year ending December 31, 2018 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “report”), I, Michael J. McGuire, Chief Executive Officer of the registrant, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to §906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and,
- (2) The information contained in the report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the registrant.

/s/ Michael J. McGuire

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Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

March 1, 2019

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

In connection with the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Blue Capital Reinsurance Holdings Ltd. (the “registrant”), for the year ending December 31, 2018 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “report”), I, Greg A Garside, Chief Financial Officer of the registrant, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to §906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and,
- (2) The information contained in the report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the registrant.

/s/ Greg A Garside

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Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

March 1, 2019

These certifications accompany the report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.