

Press Release

ABP wants Shell management to be judged on its climate ambitions

Amsterdam, 22 May 2018. **ABP pension fund abstained from voting on the ‘Follow This’ resolution at the shareholders’ meeting of Shell on Tuesday, 22 May. Shell tabled a plan in November 2017 aimed at meeting the targets of the Paris Accord. No other oil companies have yet expressed any such similar ambition. ABP thinks it is still too premature to require Shell to review its ambition, as requested by the resolution. According to ABP, it is more important for Shell to make immediate progress towards achieving its climate ambitions. ABP therefore wants Shell to start assessing and judging senior management based on the achievement of these targets.**

ABP values the efforts of Follow This to achieve the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement. ABP also endorses these objectives. We therefore asked Shell to play an active role in the global transition to an energy system with lower CO2 emissions and to report more extensively on this development.

As Chairman Corien Wortmann remarks: ‘We demand a serious commitment from all the companies in which we invest to achieve the Paris climate goals. Although Shell recently presented its ambition regarding climate policy, we still unfortunately do not see sufficient incentives for senior management to realise this aim. We therefore call on Shell management to work with more decisiveness and commitment toward its climate ambition.’

ABP will continue to urge Shell management to further increase the sustainability and implementation of the climate policy. ABP has also set itself a number of concrete objectives, which must be realised by 2020. For example, it intends to reduce the CO2 footprint of its equity portfolio by 25% between 2015 and 2020. This means that the companies in which ABP owns equities will emit 25% less CO2 in 2020. At present, the CO2 footprint of the equity portfolio is already 28% lower than in 2014, and ABP is thus performing better than its commitment even prior to 2020.

Profile

The General Pension Fund for Public Employees (ABP) is the industry-wide pension fund for employers and employees of government and educational institutions in the Netherlands. ABP has 2.9 million participants and € 408 billion (as at 30 April 2018) of capital available.