## Combined Management Report for the 2021 Financial Year

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1 General Information

Pursuant to Section 315 para. 5 of the German Commercial Code (HGB) in conjunction with Section 298 para. 2 HGB, this combined management report comprises both the group management report of BioNTech SE and its group companies (together “BioNTech” or the “Group”) and the management report of BioNTech SE (also “the Company”), hereinafter also referred to as “BioNTech,” the “Group,” “we” or “us”. The combined management report has been prepared in accordance with the Regulation on the Statute for a European Company (SE) in conjunction with the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG). The comments on the Group have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the European Union; the comments on BioNTech SE have been prepared in accordance with the German Commercial Code (HGB). Unless otherwise stated, the statements in the combined management report relate to both the Group and BioNTech SE. In addition to the reporting on the Group, the development of BioNTech SE is explained in Section 3.

We prepare and publish our combined management report in euros and round figures to the nearest thousand or million euros. Accordingly, the figures presented as totals in some tables may not be exact arithmetic aggregates of the figures preceding them and the figures presented in the notes may not add up to the rounded arithmetic aggregates. The rounding applied may differ from that published in previous years in other units.

1.1 Business Model

BioNTech is a next-generation immunotherapy company pioneering the development of therapies for cancer and other serious diseases. We combine a variety of advanced therapeutic platforms and bioinformatics tools to rapidly advance the development of novel biopharmaceuticals. The diversified portfolio of oncology product candidates includes individualized therapies as well as potential so-called “off-the-shelf” mRNA-based drugs, innovative chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T cells, bispecific checkpoint immunomodulators, targeted cancer antibodies and small molecules. The breadth of immunotherapy technologies and expertise has led to the development of potential therapies for a range of rare diseases and infectious diseases, and the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, a first product to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

A deep understanding of the human immune system is at the core of our innovations and has resulted in the discovery of four complementary drug classes:

- mRNA therapies
- Programmable cell therapies
- Next generation antibodies
- Small molecule immunomodulators

In addition to research and development, our expertise also encompasses the field of bioinformatics, which is crucial for the production of individualized therapies. Here, we have developed a validated patient-centric bioinformatics process that enables the application of complex algorithms to patient data in the context of drug manufacturing.

Our business model is to develop, manufacture and market proprietary immunotherapies, either independently or in collaboration with partners, following regulatory approval. Under our COVID-19 vaccine program, we have entered into two strategic collaborations with major pharmaceutical companies, Pfizer Inc. of New York, United States, or Pfizer, and Fosun Pharmaceutical Industrial Development Co. Ltd. of Shanghai, China, or Fosun Pharma, which we continued to advance during the 2021 financial year. In selected cases, collaboration agreements are entered into with third parties for joint product development and joint product commercialization opportunities. This is an approach that may be applied to additional product candidates in the future. BioNTech maintains a culture of scientific excellence, publishes scientific achievements, findings and results in peer-reviewed publications and has a broad patent portfolio. BioNTech’s intellectual property strategy also includes licenses from third parties in addition to its own patent portfolio.

Our consolidated revenues during the 2021 financial year includes commercial COVID-19 vaccine revenues in particular, in addition to research and development revenues from collaborations.

1.2 Legal and Organizational Structure

Legal Structure

BioNTech SE was founded in 2008 as a spin-off from Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz. The underlying broad technology and patent portfolio was built up over a period of more than 20 years.
BioNTech SE is the parent company of the BioNTech Group and is responsible for the management and development of the Group. BioNTech SE has its registered office in Mainz, Germany (An der Goldgrube 12, 55131 Mainz). In addition, as of the end of the 2021 financial year, the BioNTech Group included 27 group companies at six different locations in Germany, one location each in Austria, China, Singapore, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The following changes in the Group structure occurred during the 2021 financial year:

- In March 2021, BioNTech Turkey Tıbbi Ürünler Ve Klinik Araştırma Ticaret Anonim Şirketi, which translates into English as BioNTech Turkey Pharmaceutical Products and Clinical Trials Trading JSC, Istanbul, Turkey, was founded and is a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of BioNTech SE.
- In June 2021, BioNTech Austria Beteiligungen GmbH, Vienna, Austria, was liquidated.
- In June 2021, the merger agreement between BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH, Mainz, Germany, and BioNTech SE was registered within the commercial register (Handelsregister) of BioNTech SE under BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH was effectively merged onto BioNTech SE.
- In July 2021, BioNTech (Shanghai) Pharmaceuticals Co. Ltd., Shanghai, China, was founded and is a wholly owned subsidiary of BioNTech Pharmaceuticals Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd., a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of BioNTech SE.
- In September 2021, BioNTech Services Marburg GmbH, Marburg, Germany, was founded and is a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of BioNTech SE. In December 2021, the entity was renamed to BioNTech Innovation and Services Marburg GmbH.
- In October 2021, BioNTech SE acquired PhagoMed Biopharma GmbH, Vienna, Austria (subsequently renamed to BioNTech R&D (Austria) GmbH).
- In October 2021, BioNTech Real Estate an der Goldgrube 12 GmbH & Co. KG, Holzkirchen, Germany, was founded and is wholly owned by its limited partner BioNTech Real Estate Holding GmbH, a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of BioNTech SE.
- In November 2021, BioNTech Innovation GmbH i.G. (in establishment), Mainz, Germany, was founded and is a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of BioNTech SE.

All entities listed above are included in our consolidated financial statements.

The shares of BioNTech SE are publicly traded as American Depositary Shares (ADS) on the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

Organizational Structure

BioNTech SE, as the parent company of the BioNTech Group, has a dual management system: The Management Board, as the managing body, currently has six members and is appointed and monitored by the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board is elected by the Annual General Meeting and currently consists of four members. As of the reporting date December 31, 2021, there were 3,138 employees, of which 1,378 were employed by BioNTech SE (December 31, 2020: 2,047, of which 623 were employed by BioNTech SE) and an annual average of 2,694 employees, of which 1,181 were employed by BioNTech SE (previous year: 1,624, of which 536 were employed by BioNTech SE).

1.3 Commercialization

Our COVID-19 vaccine is based on our proprietary mRNA technology and has been fully licensed, granted conditional marketing approval, or approved or licensed for emergency or temporary use in more than 100 countries and regions worldwide.

The COVID-19 vaccine development program was launched in late January 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Under this program, two strategic collaborations with major pharmaceutical companies, Pfizer and Fosun Pharma, were completed and led to the first marketing approvals in December 2020. Clinical development continued during the 2021 financial year to obtain approvals for a broad population across many age groups. Since then, our COVID-19 vaccine has been approved in over 100 countries and regions and has been delivered to over 165 countries and regions.

We hold marketing authorization in the European Union (EU) and emergency or equivalent marketing authorizations in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and other countries in advance of a planned
application for full marketing authorization in those countries. Pfizer holds marketing and distribution rights worldwide, except in Germany, China and Turkey. We hold the marketing and distribution rights in Germany and Turkey. Fosun Pharma has marketing and distribution rights in mainland China, Hong Kong special administrative region, or SAR, Macau SAR and the region of Taiwan. The mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine is marketed under the brand name COMIRNATY® in the EU, where we have received the relevant conditional marketing authorization.

We and Pfizer have continuously expanded global vaccine manufacturing capabilities, structures and networks during the 2021 financial year to produce and distribute large volumes of the vaccine in high quality in a timely manner. Thus, expertise from both companies is synergistically leveraged. We contribute significantly with the mRNA manufacturing expertise acquired over nearly a decade, as well as through the continued expansion of our own manufacturing capacity for the joint manufacturing and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine. Important among other things was the acquisition of our production facility in Marburg, Germany, which is now one of the largest mRNA vaccine production facilities in the world.

1.4 Research and Development

The BioNTech Approach

We are developing next-generation immunotherapies. Our diversified portfolio of oncology product candidates includes individualized therapies as well as potential “off-the-shelf” drugs based on four complementary drug classes:

- mRNA therapies
- Programmable cell therapies
- Next generation antibodies
- Small molecule immunomodulators

Based on our extensive expertise in mRNA vaccine development and in-house manufacturing capabilities, we are developing various mRNA vaccine candidates for a range of infectious diseases, including with collaboration partners, in addition to our diverse oncology pipeline.

mRNA therapies

We use messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) to transport genetic information into cells, where it is used to express proteins for therapeutic effect. Currently, we are developing a portfolio of immunotherapy approaches consisting of four different mRNA formats and three different formulations to derive five different platforms for the treatment of cancer. Four of these platforms are currently in human trials: (i) standard shared antigen immunotherapy (FixVac), (ii) individualized neoantigen-specific immunotherapy (iNeST) in collaboration with Genentech Inc., or Genentech, (iii) intratumoral immunotherapy in collaboration with Sanofi, S.A., or Sanofi and (iv) mRNA encoding specific cytokines (RiboCytokines). In addition, we are developing another platform using mRNA to express specific antibodies, RiboMabs, directly in the patient. Furthermore, our proprietary mRNA technology is also used to treat COVID-19, influenza and other infectious diseases and rare diseases. Since December 2020, our COVID-19 vaccine has been fully licensed, granted conditional marketing approval, or approved or licensed for emergency or temporary use in more than 100 countries and regions worldwide.

Programmable cell therapies

We are developing a range of cell therapies to modify the patient’s T cells to target cancer-specific antigens – including chimeric antigen receptor or CAR-T cells, neoantigen-based T cell therapies and T cell receptor or TCR therapies. In addition, the mRNA-based FixVac platform will be applied in combination with the first CAR-T product candidate to improve the persistence of CAR-T cells in vivo. The first CARVac product candidate entered clinical trials in solid tumors in February 2021.

Next generation antibodies

In collaboration with Genmab A/S, Copenhagen, Denmark, or Genmab, we are developing next-generation bispecific antibodies that target immune checkpoints and modulate the patient’s immune response to cancer. In addition, BioNTech is exploring further targeted approaches for cancer antibodies using its own patents and research focus. The first two product candidates from this collaboration are in clinical trials.
Small molecule immunomodulators

We are researching small molecule drugs to induce specific immunomodulation profiles. The goal is to enhance the activity of other drug classes by inducing specific and discrete patterns of immunomodulation. We currently have a small molecule Toll-like receptor 7 or TLR7 immunomodulator in clinical trials for the treatment of solid tumors.

Pipeline of Preclinical Programs and Clinical Product Candidates

Our diversified portfolio consists of more than 20 product candidates from four drug classes focused on the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases. 16 oncology product candidates are currently being investigated in 20 clinical trials, five of which are in clinical Phase 2. To date, more than 800 patients with more than 20 solid tumor types have been treated in the oncology therapy programs. In addition, five further preclinical product candidates are being developed and we expect these to enter clinical testing in 2022. Clinical data for key programs have been published in recent years. In Phase 1 studies with product candidate BNT111, antigen-specific immune responses were observed in over 90% of patients with advanced melanoma treated with the lead FixVac product candidate as a single agent. In addition, antigen-specific immune responses were observed in patients treated with the autogenous cevumeran precursor (BNT122), the iNeST product candidate. In both studies, durable objective response (tumor volume reduction) was observed in both the monotherapy and checkpoint combination settings.

Collaborations

In addition to the strategic collaborations with Pfizer and Fosun Pharma entered into as part of the COVID-19 vaccine development program during the 2020 financial year and described above, as well as the ongoing academic collaboration with the University Hospital Mainz and Translational Oncology at the University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz gemeinnützige GmbH, or TRON, we have further developed the following collaborations with pharmaceutical and technology companies.

- Genentech: development of individualized neo-epitope-specific mRNA immunotherapies for the treatment of various cancers within our iNeST platform.
- Pfizer: development of an mRNA-based influenza vaccine and an mRNA-based herpes zoster virus vaccine.
- Genmab: development of novel bispecific checkpoint immunomodulators.
- Sanofi: development of mRNA-based intratumoral immunotherapies containing a mixture of synthetic mRNAs.
- Genevant Sciences GmbH: development of mRNA-based protein replacement therapies for five rare disease indications.

Research and Development Employees and Expenses

As of the reporting date December 31, 2021, 1,179 employees, 870 of them at BioNTech SE (December 31, 2020: 789, 329 of them at BioNTech SE), were engaged in research and development. At BioNTech SE, in addition to new hires, the increase mainly results from the reclassification of employment relationships in the context of the merger of BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH into BioNTech SE. Research and development costs amounted to €949.2 million during the 2021 financial year (previous year: €645.0 million). The increase is mainly due to increased research and development activities in our COVID-19 vaccine program. Research and development costs include the portion of costs attributable to us under the terms of the Pfizer collaboration agreement. Development costs are shared between us and Pfizer. The amount of shared development costs originally incurred by Pfizer and subsequently recharged to us was recorded in research and development expenses as purchased services, and Pfizer’s reimbursement of the research and development costs originally incurred by us was recorded as a reduction of research and development expenses.

2 Analysis of Business Development

2.1 Macroeconomic and Sector Specific Conditions

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the German economy recovered slightly in 2021, increasing by 2.9%\(^1\) after a decline of 4.9% in 2020. Global economic growth increased by around 5.9%\(^2\) in 2021. Economic activity in Germany remained subdued at the start of 2022. The improvement in Germany originally forecast for later in 2022, as well as the global economic growth of 4.9% initially expected by the International Monetary Fund, or IMF, has already

\(^{1}\) Source: https://www.destatis.de/DE/Themen/Wirtschaft/Volkswirtschaftliche-Gesamtrechnungen-Inlandsprodukt/Tabellen/bip-bubbles.html

had to be corrected to 4.4% due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, high inflation and supply chain issues.³

With the development and advancement of the COVID-19 vaccine against diverse COVID-19 variants, as well as an early warning system designed to detect SARS-CoV2 risk variants more quickly, we are working with other companies, research institutes and governments to continue to contribute to the worldwide effort to overcome the global COVID-19 pandemic and protect against COVID-19. Our goal remains to make the vaccine available to a broad population worldwide.

**Therapeutics in Immunotherapy**

The global market for therapeutics in oncology continues to grow. The world’s largest pharmaceutical companies generated sales of €202.6 billion in 2021, an increase of 14.6%.⁴ Cancer drugs will account for a share of just under 18% of the global pharmaceutical market in 2022. In the future, the share of cancer drugs of the pharmaceutical market is expected to increase even further to about 22% by 2025, according to estimates by Statista Health Market Outlook.⁵ The volume of the mRNA vaccine market is expected to increase to $46.7 billion by 2026.⁶

Market approval, pricing, and reimbursement are highly regulated in healthcare. On the one hand, governments’ strategy is to provide patients with highly effective and safe medicines in a timely manner. On the other hand, cost pressure on global healthcare systems has been increasing for years. Therefore, drug manufacturers not only need to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of their products to gain approval, but also need to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of their new drug against the respective standard of care to gain reimbursability. The rapid development of the COVID-19 vaccine, based on BioNTech’s proprietary mRNA technology, has demonstrated the potential of immunotherapies. The rapid, efficient and safe development was driven by BioNTech’s decades of expertise in the research and development of mRNA-based vaccines. BioNTech’s mRNA vaccine technology allows for faster development as well as shorter production cycles than would be possible with more traditional methods of vaccine production. This is critical in bringing a COVID-19 vaccine to market and meeting urgent medical needs.

2.2 Net Assets and Financial Position of the Group

**2.2.1 Results of Profit or Loss**

**Revenues**

Our revenues, in addition to research and development revenues from collaborations, mainly include commercial COVID-19 vaccine revenues. Revenues from contracts with customers increased by €18,494.4 million from €482.3 million during the 2020 financial year to €18,976.7 million during the 2021 financial year, as our COVID-19 vaccine has been fully approved, granted conditional marketing authorization, or approved or authorized for emergency or temporary use in over 100 countries and regions worldwide since December 2020.

Research and development revenues from collaborations decreased by €76.1 million from €178.8 million during the 2020 financial year to €102.7 million during the 2021 financial year. The decrease was largely due to our COVID-19 vaccine collaboration with Pfizer, which had generated significant research and development revenues in the 2020 financial year, and moved into the commercial phase.

Commercial sales increased by €18,570.5 million from €303.5 million during the 2020 financial year to €18,874.0 million during the 2021 financial year due to strong demand for our COVID-19 vaccine.

Whenever responsibilities in the manufacturing and supply process of the COVID-19 vaccine shift and the COVID-19 vaccine is transferred, the vaccine is sold from one partner to the other. During the 2021 financial year, revenues increased by €909.5 million from €61.4 million to €970.9 million compared to the previous year from selling drug product batches manufactured by us to collaboration partners.

The allocation of marketing and distribution rights defines territories in which the collaboration partners act as a principal. Revenues from direct COVID-19 vaccine sales in our territories, Germany and Turkey, increased by €2,986.6 million from €20.6 million to €3,007.2 million during the 2021 financial year, compared to the previous year. The share of gross profit received by Pfizer as a collaboration partner based on our sales is recognized as cost of sales.

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³ Source: https://www.tagesschau.de/wirtschaft/weltwirtschaft/iwf-prognose-wachstum-inflation-101.htm
⁴ Source: https://www.ey.com/de_de/news/2021/06/ey-pharma-bilanzen-2021
⁵ Source: https://de.statista.com/infografik/26720/geschaechter-umsatz-mit-krebsmedikamenten-und-marktanteil-an-allen-therapiegebieten-weltweit/
⁶ Source: https://www.bccresearch.com/market-research/biotechnology/mrna-vaccines-and-therapeutics-market.html
Based on Pfizer’s and Fosun Pharma’s COVID-19 vaccine sales in the collaborator territories, we are entitled to a share of the respective gross profit on sales, which represents a net amount and is recognized as collaboration revenues during the commercial phase. Compared to the previous year, revenues in this context increased by €14,640.2 million from €188.5 million to €14,828.7 million during the 2021 financial year. To determine this amount, we used certain information from our collaboration partners, some of which is based on preliminary data shared between the partners and might vary once final data is available so there could be material differences once the final data is available.

**Cost of Sales**

Cost of sales increased by €2,852.2 million from €59.3 million during the 2020 financial year to €2,911.5 million during the 2021 financial year. The increase was mainly due to recognizing cost of sales related to the sale of COVID-19 vaccines and includes Pfizer’s share of our gross profit on sales from transactions in which we act as principal.

**Research and Development Expenses**

Research and development expenses increased by €304.2 million from €645.0 million during the 2020 financial year to €949.2 million during the 2021 financial year.

The increase resulted primarily from an increase in development costs from clinical trials under the COVID-19 vaccine program that were initiated, launched and conducted during the 2021 financial year, and include the share of costs allocated to us under the terms of the Pfizer collaboration agreement. Under the collaboration agreement, development costs are shared and charged accordingly between the partners. Other reasons for the increase were higher wages, salaries and social security expenses resulting from an increased headcount, recording expenses incurred under our share-based-payment arrangements as well as from recognizing inventor remuneration expenses.

**Sales and Marketing Expenses**

Sales and marketing expenses increased by €35.9 million from €14.5 million during the 2020 financial year to €50.4 million during the 2021 financial year.

The increase resulted in particular from an increase in purchased services, which were incurred in connection with progressing our commercial activities with respect to our COVID-19 vaccine.

**General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses increased by €191.8 million from €94.0 million during the 2020 financial year to €285.8 million during the 2021 financial year.

The increase resulted in particular from higher wages, salaries and social security contributions stemming from increased employee numbers and higher expenses from our share-based payments, higher purchased management and legal advisory services, and higher insurance premiums.

**Other Operating Income and Expenses**

Other comprehensive income increased by €255.9 million from €248.1 million during the 2020 financial year to €504.0 million during the 2021 financial year.

The increase is mainly attributable to foreign currency differences from the measurement of operating balance sheet items (€446.3 million during the 2021 financial year compared to nil in the previous year). The increase reflects the change in foreign exchange rate and relates to our U.S. dollar denominated trade receivables which were mainly incurred under our COVID-19 collaboration with Pfizer, U.S. dollar denominated trade payables as well as U.S. dollar denominated other financial liabilities which mainly relate to obligations incurred from our license agreements. The amounts were partly offset by recording the change in fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts that were entered into during the 2021 financial year to manage some of our transaction exposures but not classified as hedging instruments (€86.3 million losses and €5.7 million gains during the 2021 financial year compared to nil in the previous year). In addition, other operating income included the share of government grants for the 2021 financial year which were issued during the 2020 financial year under an initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, or BMBF, to support the research and development expenses of the COVID-19 vaccine program.
Financial Income and Expenses

Net financial income represents net financial expenses in both the 2021 financial year and the previous year and decreased by €174.0 million from €63.4 million during the 2020 financial year to €237.4 million during the 2021 financial year.

Financial expenses during the 2021 financial year included €277.8 million fair value measurement adjustments of the derivative embedded in the mandatory convertible bond. The change in fair value was primarily based on the change in our share price. In addition, €66.2 million in foreign exchange gains were recognized on financial items such as our U.S. dollar bank accounts during the 2021 financial year compared to €42.6 million in foreign exchange losses in the previous year.

Income Taxes

From tax income of €161.0 million in the previous year, our income taxes increased by €4,914.9 million to €4,753.9 million in tax expenses during the 2021 financial year. Income taxes comprise actual taxes of €4,535.0 million (previous year: nil) and deferred taxes of €218.9 million (previous year: deferred tax income of €161.0 million). Current income taxes include corporate income taxes and trade taxes of our German income tax group and are based on the calculated taxable income. For the 2020 financial year, losses were incurred in total at the level of the German tax group, so that no income taxes were due for the German tax group.

Until the 2020 financial year, no deferred tax assets on tax losses were capitalized as, in accordance with IAS 12, it was not sufficiently probable that future taxable profits would be available against which the unused tax losses could be utilized. As of December 31, 2020, it was considered highly probable that future taxable income would be available for the German income tax group against which the tax losses could be utilized. Based on this, we had recognized net deferred tax assets and liabilities of €161.0 million related to the tax loss carryforwards and temporary differences of the German tax group identified as of December 31, 2020. During the 2021 financial year, the deferred tax assets on the tax loss carryforwards were utilized. The change in deferred taxes was also supplemented by deferred taxes on temporary differences. As of December 31, 2021, we do not recognize deferred tax assets on the losses of our U.S. tax group, our other companies outside Germany and the German companies that are not part of the tax group.

Annual Result

During the 2021 financial year, a profit of €10,292.5 million (previous year: €15.2 million) was generated.

2.2.2 Financial Position

The objective of the BioNTech Group’s financial management is to provide liquidity for the growth of its companies. Until December 2020, we financed our activities mainly through our equity investors, since then, proceeds from commercial sales of our COVID-19 vaccine have become an important source of liquidity. Scenario and cash flow planning are used to determine liquidity needs.

Capital Structure

There was no change in subscribed capital during the 2021 financial year. As of December 31, 2021, our subscribed capital comprised 246,310,081 voting bearer shares, of which 3,788,592 (previous year: 4,789,016) were held as treasury shares. The par value of our shares is €1.00 and confers one voting right per share at the Annual General Meeting. The financing of ongoing clinical trials, as well as the development, build-up of production capacity and acceleration of the commercialization of our COVID-19 vaccine was primarily funded from cash flow from operating activities.

In November 2020, we entered into a sales agreement, or the Sales Agreement, with Jefferies LLC and SVB Leerink LLC, as sales agents, to establish an at-the-market offering program. Through this program, we may, in due course, sell ADSs embodying ordinary shares for aggregate gross proceeds of up to $500.0 million. During the 2021 financial year, we sold 995,890 ADSs, each representing one ordinary share previously held as treasury shares, under the Sales Agreement for aggregate gross proceeds of $200.0 million (€163.6 million). As of December 31, 2021, the remaining capacity under the sale agreement was $207.1 million. Under the at-the-market offering program, the ADSs will be sold through the stock exchange, so shareholders’ preemptive rights will not be affected. The new issuance of the 995,890 ordinary shares was recorded as a reduction of treasury stock of €1.0 million. In addition, additional paid-in capital increased by €162.6 million during the 2021 financial year as a result of the transaction, while offsetting costs of €2.7 million were recognized in equity as a deduction from additional paid-in capital.
Capital Expenditures

During the 2021 financial year, investments were made in particular in property, plant and equipment in the amount of €127.5 million (previous year: €66.0 million). The investments were mainly made in connection with new buildings, particularly of BioNTech Innovative Manufacturing Services GmbH and our plant acquisition in Gaithersburg, USA. During the 2021 financial year, only €0.2 million (previous year: €85.6 million) was invested in property, plant and equipment in connection with company acquisitions (previous year: acquisition of the new subsidiary BioNTech Manufacturing Marburg GmbH). Investments in intangible assets amounted to €10.1 million during the 2021 financial year (previous year: €8.6 million). In addition, €43.3 million was invested in intangible assets in connection with company acquisitions, mainly in connection with the acquisition of the new subsidiary BioNTech R&D (Austria) GmbH (previous year: acquisition of the new subsidiary BioNTech US Inc. €93.3 million, thereof €57.5 million in goodwill).

Scheduled depreciation of property, plant and equipment amounted to €29.4 million during the 2021 financial year (previous year: €15.9 million). Amortization of intangible assets amounted to €16.8 million (previous year: €16.6 million).

Liquidity

As of December 31, 2021, our cash and cash equivalents amounted to €1,692.7 million compared to €1,210.2 million as of December 31, 2020. Primarily, the significant increase in cash inflow during the 2021 financial year is due to payments received from commercial sales of our COVID-19 vaccine and our share of gross profit from commercial sales of our partner Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine included therein. We receive a large portion of these payments in U.S. dollars, which exposes us to significant currency risks. Operating activities, which mainly include the share of gross profit received, as well as payments in connection with research and development activities, generated a positive cash flow from operating activities of €889.7 million (previous year: negative cash flow of €13.5 million).

For investing activities, which include the investments described above, we spent €566.1 million during the 2021 financial year (previous year: €144.8 million).

2.2.3 Net Assets

As of December 31, 2021, total assets amounted to €15,830.8 million, compared to €2,318.6 million as of December 31, 2020. The increase mainly resulted from increased receivables from our COVID-19 collaboration with Pfizer and the following developments:

Current and Non-Current Assets

Compared to December 31, 2020, non-current assets increased by €106.8 million, from €651.7 million to €758.5 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase resulted primarily from investments in property, plant and equipment, rights of use and intangible assets, including from company acquisitions, which were partly offset by depreciation and amortization.

The increase in current assets by €13,405.4 million, from €1,666.9 million as of December 31, 2020, to €15,072.3 million as of December 31, 2021, resulted mainly from the increase in cash and cash equivalents, as well as increased receivables from our COVID-19 collaboration with Pfizer and receivables from our customers that we supply directly in our territory.

Equity

Compared to December 31, 2020, equity increased by €10,521.9 million, from €1,371.8 million to €11,893.7 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase mainly resulted from the profit during the 2021 financial year. The equity ratio increased by 15.9 percentage points to 75.1% (previous year: 59.2%).

Liabilities

Compared with December 31, 2020, liabilities increased by €2,990.3 million, from €946.8 million to €3,937.1 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase mainly resulted from income tax liabilities, increases in obligations arising from our license agreements, and the revaluation of the derivative embedded in our convertible note.

2.3 Performance Indicators of the Group and BioNTech SE

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2.3.1 Non-Financial Performance Indicators of the Group and BioNTech SE

Innovation was classified as a material non-financial performance indicator during the 2021 financial year in line with the materiality analysis on sustainability carried out in 2020 and the qualitative review of this analysis and the GAS 20 criteria, and is used for internal management.

We develop individualized immunotherapies using state-of-the-art technologies in the fight against cancer, infectious diseases and rare diseases. We support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this context, research makes a relevant contribution to supporting the third United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 3): Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all people at all ages. Progress in research achievements, such as the development and commercialization of the COVID-19 vaccine, is a key performance indicator. We are working to clinically demonstrate the benefits of additional treatment approaches and are continuously expanding collaborations and manufacturing capabilities to offer innovative treatments to patients around the world.

2.3.2 Financial Performance Indicators of the Group and BioNTech SE

Based on our historical development, in which we financed ourselves until December 2020 mainly through the issuance of our ordinary shares, proceeds from our collaboration agreements, secured bank loans and the issuance of a convertible bond, cash flow planning compliance continues to serve as a financial performance indicator. Our liquidity requirements are monitored and managed on the basis of a liquidity management system. This liquidity management includes the specification of expenditure budgets, planning of financing requirements and ensuring sufficient liquidity holdings. During the 2021 financial year, our Controlling Committee regularly reviewed the Group’s existing liquidity balances, focusing on total cash and cash equivalents, cash outflows and currency-related changes in cash and cash equivalents. Since December 2020, our COVID-19 vaccine has been fully approved, granted conditional marketing authorization, or approved or authorized for emergency or temporary use in over 100 countries and regions worldwide. Since then, revenues and expense measures have also been the focus of our management as financial performance indicators. These include revenues based on sales of our COVID-19 vaccine, research and development costs, selling, general and administrative expenses, and our investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

Our COVID-19 vaccine revenues primarily include our share of gross profit from the sales of our collaboration partners and the revenues we generate from direct COVID-19 vaccine sales in our territories allocated based on marketing and distribution rights, Germany and Turkey. In addition, our revenues include revenues from COVID-19 vaccine sales to our partners. Revenues are strongly influenced by the volumes available under the collaboration and the agreed upon purchase volumes and serve as a performance indicator of our current commercial profitability. We aim to generate long-term sustainable revenues from the COVID-19 vaccine program by expanding access to the vaccine through supply expansion, broader distribution with a well-known brand, and continuous optimization. In addition, our future earnings potential is highly dependent on the development of the clinical pipeline and the responsible use of the financial resources generated. We are monitoring the build-up of our pipeline in oncology and infectious diseases based on the research and development expenses spent in this context. The build-up of internal administrative and coordinative functional areas such as Finance, Human Resources or Business Development, which is related to the significant increase in business volume and the expansion of research and development, is also monitored in terms of the corresponding expenditures. In addition, investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets are considered, which are made in order to further promote the growth of the Company as a whole. The availability of production capacities as well as a powerful IT infrastructure that supports digitalization are critical to the success of BioNTech’s further growth.

2.4 Overall Statement on the Business Development and Position of the Group and BioNTech SE

Our immunotherapy technologies and expertise have led to the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, the first mRNA drug in history to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. We are pursuing the goal of developing new therapies against various diseases with high unmet medical needs. These activities still require high investments at this stage. Therefore, in addition to financial metrics, we continue to measure our business success primarily by our research performance, and in particular by the achievement of the targets we have set. Together with collaboration partners, we have developed a pipeline of more than 20 product candidates in oncology. Currently, 16 product candidates are in 20 clinical trials. We have initiated a total of four Phase 2 and five Phase 1 clinical trials during the 2021 financial year. In this respect, we have further developed collaborations and made positive pipeline progress in oncology during the 2021 financial year, which is in line with expectations and planning.


3.1 Supplementary Notes According to HGB

BioNTech SE is the parent company of the BioNTech Group and is headquartered in Mainz, Germany. In
addition, at the end of the 2021 financial year, the BioNTech Group included 27 group companies at six different locations in Germany, one location each in Austria, China, Singapore, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. Key management functions for the Group, such as corporate strategy, risk management, investment management tasks, executive and financial management, as well as communication with important target groups of the Group, are the responsibility of the Management Board of BioNTech SE. With its operating activities, in particular in connection with the two collaboration agreements with Pfizer and Fosun Pharma, which were concluded by BioNTech SE in the context of the COVID-19 vaccine program, BioNTech SE generated the major part of the Group’s revenues.

BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH, Mainz, as the transferring legal entity, entered into a merger agreement with BioNTech SE as the acquiring legal entity on April 15, 2021. The merger became effective under commercial law with retroactive effect as of January 1, 2021, upon entry in the commercial register of BioNTech SE (Mainz Local Court, HRB 48720) on June 22, 2021. As a result of the registration of the merger, BioNTech SE became the universal successor of BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH. As part of the universal succession, all employees and contractual agreements, such as collaboration agreements with our partners Genentech Inc. and Sanofi S.A., were transferred. The transfer was made at book value. There was no effect on income from the merger.

BioNTech SE is not managed separately using its own performance indicators, as the Company is integrated into the Group management system. The explanations given for the Group apply. The economic framework conditions of BioNTech SE essentially correspond to those of the BioNTech Group and are described in detail in Section 2.

3.2 Net Assets, Financial Position and Results of Profit or Loss of BioNTech SE

3.2.1 Results of Profit or Loss

Revenues

Revenues increased by €14,571.0 million, from €362.8 million during the 2020 financial year to €14,933.8 million during the 2021 financial year. Commercial revenues increased due to high demand for our COVID-19 vaccine and are largely attributable to revenues recognition under the two collaboration agreements with Pfizer and Fosun Pharma, to which BioNTech SE is a party.

Cost of Goods Sold and Services Rendered to Generate Revenues

Cost of goods sold and services rendered to generate revenues increased by €1,626.4 million, from €15.6 million during the 2020 financial year to €1,642.0 million during the 2021 financial year. Cost of goods sold and services rendered to generate revenues primarily include the share of our gross profit that Pfizer receives as a collaboration partner based on our sales. In addition, sales-related licensing costs for third-party intellectual property contribute to the increase in cost of goods sold and services rendered to generate revenues.

Research and Development Expenses

Research and development expenses increased by €410.9 million, from €405.3 million during the 2020 financial year to €816.2 million during the 2021 financial year. The increase resulted primarily from an increase in development costs from clinical trials under the COVID-19 vaccine program, which were launched and conducted during the 2021 financial year and include the share of costs allocated to us under the terms of the Pfizer collaboration agreement. Other reasons for the increase were higher wages, salaries and social security expenses resulting from an increased headcount, recording expenses incurred under our share-based-payment arrangements as well as from recognizing inventor remuneration expenses.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses increased by €118.6 million, from €107.8 million during the 2020 financial year to €226.4 million during the 2021 financial year. The increase resulted in particular from higher wages, salaries and social security contributions stemming from increased employee numbers and higher expenses from our share-based payments, higher insurance contributions and higher intercompany recharges.

Other Operating Income

Other operating income increased by €396.9 million, from €242.0 million during the 2020 financial year to €638.9 million during the 2021 financial year. Other operating income during the 2021 financial year mainly included foreign currency gains from the translation of our U.S. dollar denominated trade receivables, which mainly arose from our COVID-19 collaboration with Pfizer. This was slightly offset by a decrease in government grants recognized as income, which were issued during the 2020 financial year as part of a BMBF initiative to support the research and
development expenses of the COVID-19 vaccine program.

Financial Result

The financial result, comprising the effects of profit and loss transfer and interest income and expenses, increased by €2,785.4 million compared to the previous year, from €159.1 million financial expenses to €2,626.3 million in financial income during the 2021 financial year. The increase resulted in particular from the sharp rise in income from the profit transfer from affiliated companies (net profit transfer of €2,639.4 million; previous year: net loss transfer of €162.1 million). The net interest expense included in the financial result deteriorated by €16.1 million compared with the previous year, from €3.0 million in interest income to €13.1 million in interest expense during the 2021 financial year.

Taxes on Income and Earnings

Income taxes amounted to €4,606.0 million during the 2021 financial year (previous year: nil). The increase is due to increased revenues and income recognition related to our COVID-19 vaccine sales and includes corporate income taxes and trade taxes of our German income tax group and is based on calculated taxable income.

Annual Result

Net income of €10,777.6 million was reported during the 2021 financial year (previous year: net loss of €128.9 million).

3.2.2 Financial Position

The objective of the financial management of BioNTech SE is essentially identical to that of the Group and involves providing liquidity for the growth of the Group companies.

Capital Structure

There was no change in subscribed capital during the 2021 financial year. As of December 31, 2021, our subscribed capital comprised 246,310,081 bearer shares with voting rights, of which 3,788,592 were held as treasury shares. The par value of our shares is €1.00 and each certifies one voting right at the Annual General Meeting. During the 2021 financial year, we sold 995,890 ADSs, corresponding to one ordinary share each, previously held as treasury shares, for total gross proceeds of $200.0 million (€163.6 million) under the Sales Agreement. As of December 31, 2021, the remaining capacity under the sale agreement was $207.1 million. Under the at-the-market offering program, the ADSs will be sold through the stock exchange, so shareholders’ preemptive rights will not be affected. The new issue of the 995,890 ordinary shares was recorded as a reduction of treasury shares of €1.0 million. As a result, the capital reserve increased by €162.6 million during the 2021 financial year. In addition, the capital reserve changed by €75.3 million in connection with share-based payments. The change also includes the effects from commitments for share-based payments for employees of subsidiaries that are fulfilled by BioNTech SE.

Investments

Total investments of €352.9 million (previous year: €467.0 million) were made during the 2021 financial year. In addition, the merger resulted in a reduction in fixed assets and property, plant and equipment resulting from the merger, mainly resulted from the disposal of the loan to BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals Gmbh due to the merger. The amount consisted of investments in property, plant and equipment amounting to €26.9 million (previous year: €20.2 million), plus €7.1 million from the merger and investments in intangible assets €6.7 million (previous year: €6.2 million), plus €46.7 million from the merger, and investments in shares, loans to affiliated companies and shareholdings amounting to €319.3 million (previous year: €440.6 million), offset by a negative merger effect of €217.0 million. Scheduled depreciation of property, plant and equipment amounted to €10.6 million in 2021 (previous year: €5.0 million). Amortization of intangible assets amounted to €9.7 million (previous year: €3.5 million).

Liquidity

As of December 31, 2021, BioNTech SE had cash and cash equivalents of €1,396.8 million compared to €976.3 million as of December 31, 2020. Essentially, the significant increase on the inflow of cash and cash equivalents during the 2021 financial year is due to the payments received from commercial sales of our COVID-19 vaccine and our share of the gross profit of commercial sales of the COVID-19 vaccine of our partner Pfizer included therein. We receive a large portion of these payments in U.S. dollars, which exposes us to significant currency risks. Operating activities, which mainly include the share of gross profit received as well as payments in connection with research and development activities, generated a positive cash flow from operating activities of €854.8 million (previous year:
€222.9 million).
3.2.3 Net Assets

As of December 31, 2021, total assets amounted to €15,393.20 million, compared to €1,956.3 million as of December 31, 2020. The increase was mainly the result of increased receivables from our collaboration partner Pfizer.

Fixed Assets and Current Assets

Compared with December 31, 2020, non-current assets increased by €84.9 million, from €770.5 million to €855.4 million as of December 31, 2021. In addition to additions in intangible assets and property, plant and equipment, the increase in financial assets is attributable to a reclassification.

Compared to December 31, 2020, current assets increased by €13,353.9 million, from €1,159.4 million as of December 31, 2020, to €14,513.3 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase mainly resulted from the increased level of receivables from Pfizer.

Equity

Compared with December 31, 2020, equity increased by €11,016.5 million, from €1,374.5 million to €12,391.0 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase resulted primarily from the net profit generated during the 2021 financial year. The equity ratio increased by 10.2 percentage points to 80.5% (2020: 70.3%).

Provisions and Liabilities

Compared to December 31, 2020, provisions and liabilities increased by €2,328.2 million from €581.8 million to €2,910.0 million as of December 31, 2021. The increase mainly resulted from increased tax provisions and other provisions, which mainly include provisions for outstanding invoices, which mainly include obligations under license agreements arising in connection with the sale of our COVID-19 vaccine in our territories and the territories of our collaboration partners where we and our partners use third-party intellectual property.

3.3 Forecast, Opportunity and Risk Report

The business development of BioNTech SE is essentially subject to the same risks and opportunities as the BioNTech Group, as BioNTech SE participates in the risks of the Group companies via its investments. As a result of the central financial management of the BioNTech Group, all financing transactions are essentially conducted via BioNTech SE. As the parent company of the BioNTech Group, BioNTech SE is integrated into our Group-wide risk management.

3.4 Relationships with Affiliated Companies

Final declaration of the Management Board of BioNTech SE on the report on relationships with affiliated companies for the 2021 financial year (dependent company report pursuant to Section 312 para. 3 sentence 3 AktG):

“According to the circumstances known to us at the time when the legal transactions were carried out or the measures were taken, BioNTech SE received appropriate consideration for each legal transaction and measure listed and has not been disadvantaged by the fact that measures were taken or not taken.”

4 Forecast, Opportunity and Risk Report

4.1 Forecast

We are part of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry, which stands out nationally and internationally for its innovative strength. Global demographic change and medical progress offer the industry solid growth prospects. Based on the Company’s proprietary mRNA technology, we succeeded in becoming the first company worldwide to develop a highly effective and safe vaccine against COVID-19 in compliance with scientific standards within one year and to successfully market it globally in 2021. This demonstrates our ability to develop and market medicines and therapies based on innovative technologies that add great value for patients and society.

The original plans for the 2021 financial year were significantly exceeded by actual developments. The forecast for the 2021 financial year was continuously adjusted due to new and expanded supply contracts. Based on originally expected sales revenues of approximately €9.8 billion, a total of €19.0 billion in sales revenues was finally achieved during the 2021 financial year, of which €18.8 billion is attributable to commercial COVID-19 vaccine sales.

For the 2022 financial year, Pfizer and we have already signed supply agreements for 2.4 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccine. We expect commercial COVID-19 vaccine sales of between €13 billion and €17 billion for the 2022 financial year, as follows:
expected revenues related to our share of gross profit from sales by our collaboration partners in territories allocated to them based on marketing and distribution rights;

- expected revenues from direct COVID-19 vaccine sales to customers in our territories;
- and expected revenues from sales to our collaboration partners of products produced by us.

We plan to deliver at least 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccine to middle- and low-income countries by the end of 2022. Since 2021 until the beginning of March 2022, approximately 1.3 billion of these COVID-19 vaccine doses have already been delivered.

Revenues are strongly influenced by the volumes available under the collaboration and the agreed purchase quantities. Against this backdrop, we are monitoring and planning corresponding production capacities. We intend to further expand these during the 2022 financial year. For the 2022 financial year, Pfizer and we anticipate a production capacity of up to 4 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses. In addition to the further expansion of our mRNA production facilities in Marburg, we plan to build our own fully integrated mRNA production sites in Asia and Africa and also plan to deploy turnkey mRNA production facilities based on a container solution called “BioNTainer” in Africa.

We aim to generate long-term sustainable revenues from the COVID-19 vaccine program by expanding access to the vaccine through broadening supply, broader branded distribution and continued optimization of the vaccine. We are currently working with Pfizer to create the conditions to flexibly adapt the vaccine to the Omicron variant or other potential future mutations if necessary, to optimize the formulations and to make the product accessible to additional patient groups through indication extensions.

With the successful production and commercialization of our COVID-19 vaccine, we have built up a lot of expertise and a global network to develop, produce and market future products worldwide. Based on the success of the COVID-19 vaccine, we expect increased uptake of other mRNA-based vaccines in the immunotherapy field. Our future earnings potential is highly dependent on the development of the clinical pipeline and the responsible use of the financial resources generated. We intend to reinvest the proceeds from the sale of our COVID-19 vaccine and continuously expand the clinical pipeline in both oncology and infectious diseases. During the 2022 financial year, we expect to make significant progress in several clinical trials as well as data updates in numerous development programs. In connection with the expansion of the product pipeline in the areas of oncology and infectious diseases and the expansion into new areas such as autoimmune diseases, regenerative medicine and allergies, we expect our research and development costs to continue to increase. In this context, we expect expenses of €1.4 billion to €1.5 billion for the 2022 financial year.

For the internal administrative and coordinate functional areas related to the expansion of research and development, such as finance, human resources or business development, costs are also expected to increase. For the 2022 financial year, we expect selling and general administrative expenses in the range of €450 million to €550 million.

Lastly, investments in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets will also increase. In this context, we expect capital expenditures of €450 million to €550 million for the 2022 financial year. This includes expenditures for the expansion and improvement of our research and development as well as the manufacturing facilities described above and investments in a state-of-the-art IT infrastructure to support the Company in all digitalization projects.

The extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our operations and what protective measures remain necessary depends on future developments regarding new variants, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted with certainty. We will continue to evaluate potential impacts and provide updates accordingly.

During the 2021 financial year, BioNTech completed the transformation from a research company to a fully integrated biotechnology company with sales revenues in the billion-euro range. The 2022 financial year will follow on seamlessly from this, with the aim of establishing ourselves as a leading company in the field of 21st century immunotherapies with a multi-platform strategy and a diversified product pipeline.

4.2 Risk Report

Assessment of the Overall Risk Situation by the Management Board

The assessment of the overall risk situation is the result of the consolidated consideration of all significant risk categories and individual risks.

From today’s perspective, the Management Board of BioNTech SE does not consider the Company’s continued existence to be at risk. At the time the management report was prepared, there were no risks to the continued existence
BioNTech SE is convinced that we will be able to master challenges and take advantage of opportunities in the future without taking unjustifiably high risks. In doing so, we strive for a balanced relationship between opportunities and risks. Our aim is to increase the added value for our stakeholders by analyzing and seizing new opportunities.

Risk Management System

As a next-generation immunotherapy company, we are exposed to numerous uncertainties and changes. In order to operate successfully in this volatile environment, we need to anticipate potential developments at an early stage and systematically identify, assess and manage any resulting risks. It is equally important to recognize and exploit opportunities. A functioning risk management system is therefore a central element of value-oriented corporate management for us.

Our company-wide risk management system records strategic, operational, financial and reputational risks as well as the corresponding opportunities.

Opportunities and risks are not offset against each other.

Risk Reporting

The aim is to identify, monitor and manage these risks at an early stage. Risks and their impact on the Company are presented transparently in order to enable effective management of these risks. We use internal and external sources of information for this purpose.

Central risk management prepares an overall risk report for the Management Board twice a year. The Management Board informs the Audit Committee at least twice a year. The Audit Committee deals with this report in its meetings. If unexpected risks arise – in addition to the regular reporting of significant risks – these are reported directly to the Management Board. The Audit Committee of our Supervisory Board reviews the effectiveness of the risk management system.

The development of the risk management system was again the focus of the Management Board and Supervisory Board during the 2021 financial year, and methods and processes are continuously being refined.

Risk Identification and Assessment

Building on the risks recorded in the previous period, these were reassessed during the 2021 financial year. New risks were recorded and analyzed in the same way as in the previous year. Existing risks were reviewed, sharpened and, if necessary, adjusted with regard to their content and assessment.

The individual risks are assigned to so-called risk owners who are responsible for the management of these risks and who have the necessary competences and responsibility for this. The risk owners evaluate the individual risks by determining the probability of occurrence and the expected impact on the value of the Company. In addition, the risks are expanded to include the dimensions of “reputational damage” and “relevance under criminal law” and assessed verbally.

The risk survey process is generally carried out twice a year (in the first and third quarter). Ad hoc risks are continuously recorded and assessed.

Since the 2021 financial year, the risk survey has been supported by a risk management tool. Within the tool, risks are aggregated via a Monte Carlo simulation, evaluated via a value-at-risk approach and then managed according to the defined risk-bearing capacity.

For critical risks, risk mitigation measures are identified and controlled by the risk owners.

Risk Assessment

Risks are assessed according to “probability of occurrence” and “damage potential”.

However, risks with a currently low estimated damage potential may have a greater impact in the future than currently assessed and are therefore continuously further monitored by the central risk management.
Risks with the Greatest Impact

Risks from Strategic Transformation and Integration

We are in a constant process of strategic adjustments. If we cannot implement these plans as expected, we are exposed to certain risks. For example, the benefits of the measures may be less than originally estimated, they may have a later impact than anticipated, or they may not have any effect at all. Any of these factors – alone or in combination – could have a negative impact on our business, assets, financial position and earnings. The transformation is being addressed through various strategic initiatives, including in particular the expansion of existing departments and cross-disciplinary teams as well as the expansion of our tool support and the underlying process landscape. The risk is assessed as high.

Employees

Our workforce plays a crucial role in our transformation. The skills of our employees are an important factor for our business success. If we are unable to attract or retain sufficient experts, this would have a negative impact on our business in the future. New processes and capacities are being developed and built up in order to ensure that the bottleneck caused by the generally high market demand for the recruitment of new employees and relevant specialist staff is met. The risk is assessed as high.

Research & Development

With currently seventeen product candidates in clinical development, our main activity continues to be research and development and the supervision of clinical trials. Naturally, this also involves the greatest risks. For scientific, procedural or regulatory reasons, product candidates may not be developed to market maturity, or only with a delay. Likewise, despite optimal preparation, unforeseeable complications or side effects may occur in the course of clinical trials, which in the worst case could lead to legal disputes and compensation payments.

The increasing number of candidates in our product pipeline also has a growing impact on the Company’s risk situation. We constantly monitor the development of our industry and the market in order to address uncertain factors during the research and development of our candidates in oncology and infectious diseases (e.g. clinical care costs, the number of treatable patients, possible additional costs due to delays in clinical trials or a more difficult patient search due to the pandemic). The risk is considered high.

Our COVID-19 vaccine is our first commercial product on the market and is an effective component in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Sales projected by assumptions are subject to fluctuations and may thus fall short of our own expectations. These fluctuations can be caused, for example, by an incorrect assessment of market size or unforeseen changes in market demand. Changes in the requirements for our vaccine, a missed or delayed adaptation to new virus variants or even superior products from competitors could also have an aggravating effect. Internal capacities are being built and expanded to address the complex landscape of emergency approvals, temporary approvals or conditional approvals. We continuously monitor and analyze market and industry developments in order to identify market entry barriers, growing competition or changes in health legislation at an early stage. In addition, we are in active exchange with government representatives, health insurance companies or other payers. The risk is classified as high.

The various contracts with our collaboration partners and the associated profit share are subject to certain expectations on our side. Despite various reconciliations and our own assessment, actual results may fall short of our expectations, e.g. due to lower sales or market shares in our partners’ regions as well as increased costs on our partners’ side. In order to be able to better assess the developments, we are in intensive and constant exchange with our partners. Our Management Board classifies the risk as high.

In connection with the continuation of clinical trials, we are in close contact with the clinical centers located in the countries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and are continuously assessing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on clinical trials, expected timelines and costs. The pandemic has affected our ability to recruit patients for clinical trials. This led to delays in the relevant trials. We are constantly monitoring the development of our industry and the market in order to be able to take appropriate countermeasures. The availability and performance of suppliers, licensors and Contract Research Organizations (CROs) due to the impact of COVID-19 was only marginally affected.

Finance

On the finance and liquidity side, we face the possibility of delayed or non-payment from our business partners. Currently, our counterparties consist mainly of customers in the biopharma/biotech industry operating in the U.S. or
Germany, and governments of the territories allocated to us under the COVID-19 collaboration agreements on a marketing and distribution rights basis. An impending insolvency of a government thus threatens our revenues. Management considers the risk of delayed or non-payment by individual counterparties to be low and applies specific guidelines to constantly monitor the credit risks of our customers.

A large part of the incoming payments are in U.S. dollars. Consequently, we incur an exchange rate risk for the funds required in euros. With the aim of preserving capital, liquidity surpluses are invested carefully. Possible interest rate risks can lead to opportunities due to a short-term rise in interest rates. We also identify exchange rate risks with regard to foreign currency investments. Exchange rate and interest rate fluctuations can reduce the value of our financial positions. We limit the effects of the identified risks with the help of a coordinated and consistently implemented risk strategy. As a matter of principle, forward exchange transactions are concluded as hedging instruments. In addition, our risk strategy takes into account natural hedging relationships. In addition, developments on the financial markets are continuously monitored in order to be able to react to extraordinary events at short notice.

Compliance and regulation
The rapid growth of recent years favors the risk of a delay in quarterly or annual financial statements. Increased media attention and regulatory requirements also have an impact on timelines, as does the interaction between internal departments and external collaboration partners as sources of information. The necessary processes and systems are being developed. The risk has a high impact on our reputation.

An internal customs department is currently being set up to avoid unintentionally incorrectly issued customs declarations. The risk is assessed as low, but has a high relevance in terms of criminal tax law.

The withholding and deduction of taxes on remuneration for the transfer of the use or the permission to use rights, in particular copyrights and industrial property rights, is actively monitored by our tax department. The risk is assessed as low, but has a high relevance in terms of criminal tax law.

In the area of compliance, the focus is on combating insider trading. Employees could disclose relevant and confidential information to the public and thus, willingly or not, have an impact on the share price. Due to established processes and training, the risk is considered low, but high reputational damage is possible.

Another focus is placed on avoiding bribery and corruption. Due to established processes and training, the risk is rated as low, but medium reputational damage is possible.

Processes and responsibilities need to grow and adapt with rapid growth. It may not be possible to adequately meet the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (U.S. federal law designed to improve reporting by companies using the U.S. public capital market). The confidence of the market or individual investors could be damaged. To counteract this, the internal control system is constantly being expanded and further developed. There is a low risk, but high reputational damage is possible.

Legal and IP
Legal risks can be grouped into two categories. On the one hand, there are the contractual risks and, on the other hand, patent-relevant risks.

On the contractual side, BioNTech is confronted with possible breaches of contracts. Different interpretations of the contracts, the claims regulated in them and the distribution of sales and costs could lead to disputes. Provisions are made to counter this risk. A medium residual risk remains.

In addition, in the normal course of business, we may from time to time be involved in discussions with third parties concerning, for example, the use of and compensation for the use of the intellectual property of such third parties. Unintentional infringement of protected intellectual property of others is one of the patent-related risks and is countered by continuous monitoring of patent applications. In addition, in such cases, we continuously assess whether the related circumstances will change in the future, including whether it may be necessary to recognize a provision and whether there are potential indemnification claims against such allegations. A certain residual risk remains.

Intentional or unintentional infringement of our intellectual property by third parties is classified as a low risk, but would have mainly long-term effects.

The rapid growth of recent years shows a looming gap in insurance management, possibly not all events or
different events are fully insured. Constant growth makes it difficult for insurance service providers to assess, coverage amounts and related premiums may be set too high or too low. We are in continuous exchange with insurance companies to find an acceptable solution regarding conditions and costs, a central insurance management is being established and several insurance brokers are already engaged. Until the measures taken are fully implemented, the management classifies the risk as medium.

Security

Due to the growing media attention and rapid growth, we are confronted with an increased threat situation. This includes both physical security and the security of digital systems.

Physical security includes unauthorized access to our buildings, theft, vandalism, harassment of our employees and impact on our supply chains. The risk is assessed as medium to high and will be considered in a focused manner over the coming months.

The protection of our data and the security of our information also includes unauthorized access from outside and inside and is already addressed through various measures, for example against different types of extortionist or denial-of-service attacks as well as theft of intellectual property. The risk is rated as medium to high.

Pandemic response

During the 2021 financial year, we continued to face various pandemic-related challenges at different locations. In response to the spread of COVID-19, business practices were changed, including limiting employee travel, developing social distancing plans for employees and cancelling physical attendance at meetings, events and conferences. This has helped to prevent prolonged illness or absenteeism. The safety of our staff is paramount. We have developed a two-step plan for this. In addition to the legal requirements, we also reduced our present laboratory staff to 50% and office staff to 20%. Flexible scheduling and mobile working further facilitate these requirements. The management estimates an operational delay to be low.

Internal Control System

Our internal control system aims to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of our financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). By listing our share on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, we have established our internal control system based on SOX regulations (Sarbanes-Oxley Act Section 404).

Based on the COSO model (Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission), our internal control system for financial reporting is divided into five components: control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring of the internal control system.

The effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting is regularly reviewed and assessed against the COSO components in accordance with Section 404 SOX. As of December 31, 2021, the control system over financial reporting was assessed as effective by our Management Board.

Given the limitations inherent in the system, the design of the internal control over financial reporting and the diligence of the control implementation do not lead to absolute certainty that the financial reporting objectives will be achieved and misstatements will always be prevented or detected.

4.3 Opportunity Report

In pursuit of our vision, we are focused on transforming the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases and creating long-term value for patients, society and our shareholders through innovative and personalized medicines and therapies that harness the full potential of the human immune system. Based on the key building blocks listed below, we believe we are well positioned to provide people around the world with access to our therapies and medicines and to ensure that they benefit from them.

Pipeline of Preclinical Programs and Clinical Product Candidates

Underpinning our vision is our understanding and long experience in mRNA, synthetic biology and other innovative technologies. We are working with a broad range of tools across multiple technology platforms, including a wide spectrum of potentially first-in-class therapeutic approaches, to provide individually tailored therapies for diverse disease forms and manifestations. We also use bioinformatics processes and algorithms to do this. Our platform is composed of patent-protected technologies in the drug classes mRNA therapies, programmable cell therapies, next-
generation antibodies and small molecule immunomodulators. The acquisition of BioNTech Austria in October 2021 also opens up the possibility for us to enter more deeply into the field of synthetic lysines.

Our diversified product portfolio represents a large repertoire of potential future market-ready products, which at the same time enables us to reduce the impact of product candidates that do not make it to market on the overall development of the Company.

The rapid development, successful commercialization and delivery of our COVID-19 vaccine, based on our proprietary mRNA technology, has demonstrated the potential of immunotherapies. The speed and success of developing a vaccine based on mRNA technology has also demonstrated that not only highly effective and safe vaccines can be produced based on this technology, but that mRNA technology also enables faster product development and shorter production cycles than conventional vaccine technologies. The ongoing development of the COVID-19 vaccine with respect to the omicron variant and potential future viral variants provides us with the opportunity to continue to be the leading provider of COVID-19 vaccines, together with our partner Pfizer.

We believe we are well positioned to develop the next generation of immunotherapies, which have the potential to change treatment paradigms for therapies for cancer, infectious diseases and other serious conditions, and significantly improve clinical outcomes for patients.

In oncology, we are exploring and exploiting novel targets and target combinations. Our goal is to extend the benefits of cancer immunotherapies to patient populations that cannot currently benefit from effective therapies. To increase the potential efficacy of our immunotherapies, we develop drug candidates that are precisely targeted. By combining compounds with synergistic mechanisms of action, such as the combination of our FixVac immunotherapy (CARVac) with our novel CAR-T therapies, we aim to increase drug activity and counteract resistance mechanisms.

Production

For the production of the COVID-19 vaccine, BioNTech has established a global supply chain and production network in 2020 and 2021, in addition to expanding internal production capacities, in particular through the acquisition of the manufacturing site in Marburg. In 2022 and the following years, we will build or lease the laboratories, production facilities and office space necessary for the Company’s further expansion, as well as further expanding the partner network.

We plan to build our own fully integrated mRNA production sites in Asia and Africa with capacity to produce hundreds of millions of doses of various mRNA-based vaccines. Our plans in Asia include building a fully integrated mRNA manufacturing facility in Singapore and our first regional headquarters for Southeast Asia. We anticipate that the Singapore facility could be operational in 2023. Using a novel approach, we have also designed and manufactured turnkey mRNA production facilities based on a container solution called “BioNTainer”, which are designed to enable scalable mRNA vaccine production in bulk. The establishment of the first mRNA manufacturing facility in the African Union is expected to start in mid-2022 and the first BioNTainer is expected to arrive in Africa in the second half of 2022.

Our global COVID-19 vaccine supply chain and manufacturing network includes 20 production sites on four continents. This gives us the opportunity to provide people around the world with fast and easy access to state-of-the-art medicines and therapies. In addition, the increasing digitalization and automation of business processes, supported by effective process management, creates opportunities for us to create additional value and increase efficiency.

Commercialization

Last year, we transformed from a pharmaceutical start-up to a global, profitable and fully integrated biotechnology company thanks to the successful production and commercialization of our COVID-19 vaccine. The financial resources gained in 2021 and expected in 2022 put us in a good position to accelerate the expansion of our portfolio in the field of oncology and to open up further therapeutic areas and sales markets. In this way, we want to succeed in assuming a leading role in the rapidly growing market for immunotherapies in the coming years. With the commercial team created in 2020 and the establishment of two sales companies in Germany and Turkey, we have created the necessary conditions to also be able to market future products worldwide on our own and thus significantly reduce our dependency on partners.

We are also building a digital commercial ecosystem to enable even better interaction with the Company’s stakeholders, including a personalized customer journey, a sales performance program and a smart learning platform.
In the future, we will continue to use the opportunity to expand our own know-how with promising complementary technologies and strengthen production capacities with targeted acquisitions and investments in other companies. In this context, the increased attention on our company due to the successful development and production of a COVID-19 vaccine as well as its commercialization also offers the opportunity to enter into new partnerships with leading global companies, foundations and academic research institutions for the development and distribution of further products.

Team and Corporate Culture

Standing behind the great successes of the past two years are our now more than 3,000 employees. In addition, we have a management team consisting of renowned scientists, experienced entrepreneurs and the biotechnology investors who support us. In order to be able to continue our successful development, it is of great importance for us to continue to attract the best minds for the Company in the future.

Both the Management Board and the Supervisory Board see the maintenance of our corporate culture, exemplified by “Project Lightspeed”, which has led to the rapid and successful development of our COVID-19 vaccine, as a fundamental part of our strategy to manage our expected future organizational growth. A “Culture Campus” we created brings together employees from a wide range of disciplines to work together to develop the culture based on the founding team’s vision.

The Group has identified key factors of our corporate culture based on a data-driven process: a strong sense of purpose, a focus on fostering contribution and responsiveness. Scientific rigor, innovation and passion drive us. We foster self-confidence in our staff, give them the ambition they need to be pioneers and push boundaries, and also take the time to celebrate our own successes. Cohesion is an important part of our culture, which focuses on collaboration, teamwork and a learning culture that sees both successes and failures as opportunities for growth. Despite our significant growth, we strive to remain adaptable, which is critical for innovation, efficiency and identifying opportunities and possibilities. Finally, we remain responsible, acting with integrity and making decisions based on sustainability, our values and scientific data.

We enjoy a high profile in Germany and worldwide and have a corporate culture that current and potential employees can identify with. This gives the Company the opportunity to become a globally attractive employer for the best talent in both the scientific and administrative fields.

5 Corporate Governance Statement Pursuant to Section 315d in Conjunction with Section 289f HGB

5.1 Declaration on the Corporate Governance Code Pursuant to Section 161 AktG

The German Stock Corporation Act (AktG) requires that the Management Board and Supervisory Board of German companies listed on a stock exchange regulated and supervised by a state-recognized body issue an annual declaration either (i) stating that the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code, or “Code” have been complied with or (ii) listing the recommendations with which the Company has not complied and explaining the reasons for the deviation from the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code (Declaration of Compliance). There is no obligation to comply with the recommendations or suggestions of the Corporate Governance Code. A company listed in this sense is obliged to further indicate in this annual declaration whether it intends to comply with the recommendations or to list the recommendations it does not intend to comply with in the future. This statement shall be made publicly available online.

If the Company changes its policy with regard to certain recommendations between these annual statements, it must disclose this fact and explain the reasons for the deviation from the recommendations. Non-compliance with the suggestions also contained in the Corporate Governance Code in addition to the recommendations does not have to be disclosed.

Our Management Board and Supervisory Board have dealt in detail with the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code and on March 29, 2022, issued the following Declaration of Conformity pursuant to Section 161 para. 1 AktG, which, in accordance with the Code, is issued in connection with the Corporate Governance Declaration pursuant to Section 315d in conjunction with Section 289f HGB.

BioNTech SE has complied and will continue to comply with all recommendations of the German Corporate Governance Code as amended on December 16, 2019, with the exception of the points listed below.

- According to Item B.1 of the Code, the Supervisory Board shall pay attention to diversity in the composition of the Management Board. On May 4, 2020, the Supervisory Board of the Company set targets for the proportion
of women on the Management Board at 25%. Mr. Jens Holstein was appointed to the Management Board as Chief Financial Officer on July 1, 2021. Prior to the appointment of Mr. Holstein, an extensive selection process took place with several female and male candidates. Mr. Holstein was appointed on the basis of his expertise, his many years of experience and his profile as Chief Financial Officer, and he was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position of Chief Financial Officer and the best fit for the Company compared to all other candidates. The Supervisory Board is working on the target values with regard to diversity on the Management Board and will continue to take these into account in the future.

• According to Item B.3 of the Code, the initial appointment of Management Board members shall be for a period of no more than three years. In deviation from this, the Management Board member Mr. Holstein was appointed on July 1, 2021 for a period of four years. With regard to Mr. Holstein’s many years of experience and individual qualifications, the Company considers an initial appointment of four years to be necessary and appropriate. Furthermore, the Company considers the initial appointment for a four-year period to be in the best interest of the Company in order to be able to implement long-term strategic corporate goals and decisions.

• According to Item C.7 of the Code, it is recommended that more than half of the members of the Supervisory Board be independent of the Company and its Management Board. Accordingly, a Supervisory Board member is independent of the Company and its Management Board if he or she has no personal or business relationship with the Company or its Management Board that could constitute a material and not merely temporary conflict of interest. In assessing independence, the length of service on the Supervisory Board is to be taken into account, among other factors. Despite the fact that three out of four members of the Supervisory Board have exceeded the period of membership recommended in the Code, all members of the Supervisory Board are considered to be independent. The Supervisory Board considers it advantageous and essential for the Company to maintain the knowledge and experience currently available on the Supervisory Board. This includes many years of knowledge of the Company and its industry as well as comprehensive professional knowledge in the areas of finance, economics, science and the capital markets, which is particularly important in view of the current steady global growth and change of the Company. Due to the longstanding relationship with the Company and the existing economic independence from the Company, as well as the lack of other concerns that could cause possible conflicts of interest, the length of service of the three nominated Supervisory Board members does not prevent them from being independent (see Item C.8 of the Code).

• The variable remuneration for the Management Board is only payable if defined stringent performance criteria are met. If necessary, the Supervisory Board is authorized to reduce the remuneration pursuant to Section 87 para. 2 of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG). With the implementation of the new remuneration system within the framework adopted by the Annual General Meeting on June 22, 2021, it was determined that, in the future, service contracts of Management Board members that are to be newly concluded or extended should contain so-called malus and clawback provisions that entitle the Company to withhold or reclaim variable remuneration components in whole or in part in the event that the Management Board member in question violates internal Company conduct guidelines or legal obligations. Furthermore, service contracts of Management Board members to be newly concluded or extended will in future contain a provision which requires Management Board members to repay variable remuneration already paid out if it turns out that the basis for calculating the amount paid out was incorrect. Currently, these new regulations only affect some of the Management Board members. For the remaining Management Board members, it is planned to amend the employment contracts accordingly during the 2022 financial year (see Item G.11 of the Code).

5.2 Composition and Working Practices of the Management Board, Supervisory Board and Committees

Two-Tiered Board Structure

We are a European public company with limited liability (Societas Europaea or SE) (also referred to as European stock corporation, and in the official terminology of the European legislation referred to as European public limited-liability company), having its seat in Germany. We have chosen to have a two-tiered SE structure. Hence, our corporate bodies are the Management Board (Vorstand), the Supervisory Board (Aufsichtsrat) and the shareholders’ meeting (Hauptversammlung). Our Management and Supervisory Boards are entirely separate, and, as a rule, no individual may simultaneously be a member of both boards.

Our Management Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of our business in accordance with applicable laws, our Articles of Association and the Management Board’s internal rules of procedure (Geschäftsordnung). Our Management Board represents us in our dealings with third parties.

The principal function of our Supervisory Board is to supervise our Management Board. The Supervisory Board is also responsible for appointing and removing the members of our Management Board, representing us in connection with transactions between a current or former member of the Management Board and us, and granting approvals for
certain significant matters.

Our Management Board and our Supervisory Board are solely responsible for, and manage, their own areas of competency (Kompetenztrennung); therefore, neither board may make decisions that, pursuant to applicable law, our Articles of Association or the internal rules of procedure are the responsibility of the other board. Members of both boards owe a duty of loyalty and care to us. In carrying out their duties, they are required to exercise the standard of care of a prudent and diligent businessperson. If they fail to observe the appropriate standard of care, they may become liable to us.

In carrying out their duties, the members of both boards must take into account a broad range of considerations when making decisions, including our interests and the interests of our shareholders, employees, creditors and, to a limited extent, the general public, while respecting the rights of our shareholders to be treated on equal terms. Additionally, the Management Board is responsible for implementing an internal monitoring system for risk management purposes.

Our Supervisory Board has comprehensive monitoring responsibilities. To ensure that our Supervisory Board can carry out these functions properly, our Management Board must, among other duties, regularly report to our Supervisory Board regarding our current business operations and future business planning (including financial, investment and personnel planning). In addition, our Supervisory Board, or any of its members, is entitled to request special reports from the Management Board on all matters regarding the Company, our legal and business relations with affiliated companies and any business transactions and matters at such affiliated companies that may have a significant impact on our position at any time.

Under German law, our shareholders have, as a general rule, no direct recourse against the members of our Management Board or the members of our Supervisory Board in the event that they are believed to have breached their duty of loyalty and care to us. Apart from when we are unable to fulfill our third party obligations, tortious conduct to board members or other special circumstances, only we have the right to claim damages against the members of our two boards.

We may waive these claims to damages or settle these claims only if at least three years have passed since a claim associated with any violation of a duty has arisen and only if our shareholders approve the waiver or settlement at a shareholders’ meeting with a simple majority of the votes cast, provided that no shareholders who in the aggregate hold one-tenth or more of our share capital oppose the waiver or settlement and have their opposition formally recorded in the meeting’s minutes.

5.2.1 Supervisory Board

Under German law, the Supervisory Board must consist of at least three members, although a company’s articles of association may provide for a higher number. The Supervisory Board currently consists of four members. Since BioNTech is not subject to co-determination, the members of the Supervisory Board are elected by the General Meeting in accordance with the provisions of the SE Regulation and the German Stock Corporation Act.

The following table sets forth the names and functions of the current members of our Supervisory Board, their ages as of December 31, 2021, their terms (which expire on the date of the relevant year’s general shareholders’ meeting) and their principal occupations outside of our Company:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (Function)</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Expiry of mandate</th>
<th>Main occupation (other relevant Supervisory Board mandates)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helmut Jeggle (Chairman of the Supervisory Board)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Managing partner and entrepreneurial venture capital investor of Salvia GmbH (Supervisory Board member 4SC AG, AiCuris AG, AFFiRiS AG, APK AG and Tonies SE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Motschmann (Supervisory Board member)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Member of the Management Board and Head of Investments of MIG Capital AG (Member of the Supervisory Boards of AFFiRiS AG, APK AG, HMW-Emissionshaus AG and HMW-Innovations AG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Christoph Huber, M.D. (Supervisory Board member)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Professor Emeritus of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board Tirol Kliniken GmbH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider (Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Managing Director of beebusy capital GmbH and independent consultant for companies in the life science and healthcare sector (Member of the Supervisory Board Vanguard AG from January 1 to December 31, 2021)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The business address of the members of the Supervisory Board is the same as the business address of BioNTech: An der Goldgrube 12, 55131 Mainz, Germany.

German law requires that the Supervisory Board consists of at least three members, while a company’s articles of association may stipulate a certain higher number. Our Supervisory Board currently consists of four members.

As we are not subject to co-determination, the members of our Supervisory Board are all elected by the shareholders’ meeting in accordance with the provisions of the SE Regulation and the AktG. German law does not require the majority of our Supervisory Board members to be independent and neither our Articles of Association (Satzung) nor the rules of procedure for our Supervisory Board provide otherwise. As per our Supervisory Board’s assessment, an appropriate number of shareholder representatives on the Supervisory Board (i.e. the entire Supervisory Board) are independent if the Supervisory Board has two independent members. In addition to Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider, the Supervisory Board considers Helmut Jeggle, Michael Motschmann and Prof. Christoph Huber, M.D. to be independent irrespective of the fact that they will soon have been members of the Supervisory Board for a period of more than 13 years. As stated in the declaration to the German Corporate Governance Code, or the Corporate Governance Code, (Entsprechenserklärung) published by the Company on March 29, 2022, pursuant to Section 161 para. 1 of the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz), which in accordance with the Corporate Governance Code is issued in connection with the Declaration pursuant to Section 315d in conjunction with Section 289f of the German Commercial Code (HGB), the length of membership does not give rise to any fears of material conflicts of interest on the part of the members of the Supervisory Board and therefore does not stand in the way of their independence. However, the rules of procedure for our Supervisory Board provide that the Supervisory Board should have an independent member with expertise in the field of accounting, internal control processes and auditing. Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider fulfills this role.

Under European law, a member of a Supervisory Board of an SE may be elected for a maximum term to be specified in the articles of association, which must not exceed six years. Re-election, including repeated re-election, is permissible. The shareholders’ meeting may specify a term of office for individual members or all of the members of our Supervisory Board which is shorter than the standard term of office and, subject to statutory limits, may set different start and end dates for the terms of members of our Supervisory Board. Our Articles of Association provide for a term of approximately five years, depending on the date of the annual general shareholders’ meeting in the year in which the term of the relevant member is to expire.

The shareholders’ meeting may, at the same time as it elects the members of the Supervisory Board, elect one or more substitute members. The substitute members replace members who cease to be members of our Supervisory Board and take their place for the remainder of their respective terms of office. Currently, no substitute members have been elected or have been proposed to be elected.

Members of our Supervisory Board may be dismissed at any time during their term of office by a resolution of the shareholders’ meeting adopted by at least a simple majority of the votes cast. In addition, any member of our Supervisory Board may resign at any time by giving one month’s written notice – or, in the event of cause, giving written notice with immediate effect – of his or her resignation to the Management Board.
Our Supervisory Board elects a chairperson and a deputy chairperson from its members. The deputy chairperson exercises the chairperson’s rights and obligations whenever the chairperson is unable to do so. The members of our Supervisory Board have elected Mr. Helmut Jeggle as chairperson and Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider as deputy chairperson, each for the term of their respective membership on our Supervisory Board.

The Supervisory Board meets at least twice every six months. Our Articles of Association provide that a quorum of the Supervisory Board members is present if at least three of its members participate in the vote. Members of our Supervisory Board are deemed present if they attend the meeting via telephone or other (electronic) means of communication (including via video conference) or submit their written vote through another member. Additionally, our Articles of Association allow for resolutions to be taken via telephone or other (electronic) means of communications (including via video conference).

Resolutions of our Supervisory Board are passed by the vote of a simple majority of the votes cast unless otherwise required by law, our Articles of Association or the rules of procedure of our Supervisory Board. In the event of a tie, the chairperson of the Supervisory Board has the casting vote. Our Supervisory Board is not permitted to make management decisions, but in accordance with European and German law and in addition to its statutory responsibilities, it has determined that certain matters require its prior consent, including:

- entering into certain large transactions;
- creating or holding any interest in businesses (except wholly owned subsidiaries) or disposing of shares in businesses (except for a sale of JPT);
- issuing shares from authorized capital, unless the shares are issued pursuant to a redemption of stock appreciation rights; and
- acquiring treasury shares in return for valuable consideration.

The remuneration of the members of the Supervisory Board is described in the remuneration report, which will be prepared for the first time for the 2021 financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 162 AktG and published on the website.

Each member of the Supervisory Board shall disclose any conflicts of interest to the Supervisory Board, especially those that may arise from providing advice or holding any offices or board positions at customers, suppliers, creditors or other third parties. Material conflicts of interest that are not merely temporary and that are specific to a particular Supervisory Board member shall result in this particular member leaving office. Our Supervisory Board also puts in place adequate measures to limit, prevent or resolve conflicts of interest in accordance with applicable legal requirements and the Company’s Conflicts of Interest Policy.

Our Supervisory Board conducted a self-assessment together with an external consultant for the 2021 financial year. It covered all key aspects of the Supervisory Board’s work, including its committees, and was conducted with all members in the form of virtual interviews. The results of the self-assessment were subsequently presented to the Supervisory Board by the external consultant and evaluated, discussed and possible suggestions for improvement discussed together with the Supervisory Board. This confirmed the professional, very good cooperation within the Supervisory Board and with the Management Board, which is characterized by a high level of trust. No fundamental need for change was identified.

**Supervisory Board Practices**

Decisions are generally made by our Supervisory Board as a whole, however decisions on certain matters may be delegated to committees of our Supervisory Board to the extent permitted by law. The chairperson, or if he or she is prevented from doing so, the deputy chairperson, chairs the meetings of the Supervisory Board and determines the order in which the agenda items are discussed, the method and order of voting, as well as any adjournment of the discussion and passing of resolutions on individual agenda items after a due assessment of the circumstances. Our Supervisory Board may designate further types of actions as requiring its approval.

In addition, each member of the Supervisory Board is obliged to carry out his or her duties and responsibilities personally, and such duties and responsibilities cannot be generally and permanently delegated to third parties. However, the Supervisory Board and its committees have the right to appoint independent experts for the review and analysis of specific circumstances in accordance with its control and supervision duties under applicable European and German law. We would bear the costs of any such independent experts that are retained by the Supervisory Board or any of its committees.
Pursuant to Section 107 para. 3 of the AktG, the Supervisory Board may form committees from among its members and charge them with the performance of specific tasks. The committees’ tasks, authorizations and processes are determined by the Supervisory Board. Where permissible by law, important powers of the Supervisory Board may also be transferred to committees.

By resolution, the Supervisory Board has established an Audit Committee, a Compensation, Nominating and Governance Committee and a Capital Markets Committee. Set forth in the table below are the current members of the Audit Committee, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Capital Markets Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Committee</th>
<th>Current Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider (Deputy Chairman Supervisory Board), Michael Motschmann (Supervisory Board member) and Prof. Christoph Huber, M.D. (Supervisory Board member)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee</td>
<td>Michael Motschmann (Supervisory Board member), Prof. Christoph Huber, M.D. (Supervisory Board member) and Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider (Deputy Chairman Supervisory Board)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Markets Committee</td>
<td>Helmut Jeggle (Chairman Supervisory Board) and Michael Motschmann (Supervisory Board member)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Audit Committee**

Our Audit Committee consists of Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider, Michael Motschmann and Prof. Christoph Huber. Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider is the chair of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee assists the Supervisory Board in overseeing the accuracy and integrity of our financial statements, our accounting and financial reporting processes and audits of our financial statements, the effective functioning of our internal control system, our risk management system, our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, our independent auditor’s qualifications and independence, the performance of the independent auditor and the effective functioning of our internal audit functions, and, subject to certain limitations, adopts and implements pertinent decisions on behalf of the Supervisory Board. The Audit Committee’s duties and responsibilities to carry out its purpose, include, among others:

- making a recommendation of the audit committee to the Supervisory Board with respect to the proposal for the appointment of the auditors
- considering the commissioning of the audit engagement, as well as the compensation, retention and oversight of the independent auditor;
- evaluating the qualifications, independence and quality of performance of the independent auditor;
- reviewing and pre-approving the audit and non-audit services to be performed by the independent auditor;
- reviewing and discussing the annual audit plan, as well as critical accounting policies and practices to be used with the independent auditor and management;
- discussing and determining additional areas of audit focus, as appropriate;
- reviewing and discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of our internal accounting controls and critical accounting policies with the independent auditor and management;
- reviewing and discussing the results of our annual audit with the independent auditor and management;
- reviewing of non-financial reporting;
- reviewing the effectiveness of the compliance management system;
- reviewing and discussing any quarterly or annual earnings announcements with the independent auditor and management;
- reviewing any related party transactions and reviewing and monitoring potential conflict of interest situations on an ongoing basis for compliance with our policies and procedures; and
- overseeing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters.

Within the limits of applicable European and German law, the Audit Committee shall have the resources and authority appropriate to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to select, retain, terminate, and
approve the fees and other engagement terms of special or independent counsel, accountants or other experts and advisors, as it deems necessary or appropriate for so discharging its duties and responsibilities, without seeking approval of the Management Board or Supervisory Board.

As Chairman of the Audit Committee, Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider has the special knowledge and experience in accordance with the requirements of the German Corporate Governance Code. In addition, both Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider and Michael Motschmann have expertise in the field of accounting and expertise in the field of auditing.

Compensation, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consists of Michael Motschmann, Prof. Christoph Huber, M.D. and Dr. Ulrich Wandschneider. Mr. Motschmann is the chair of the committee. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee’s duties and responsibilities to carry out its purpose include, among others:

• preparing and discussing policies relating to the remuneration of the members of our Management Board with management;
• reviewing and supervising corporate goals and objectives for the remuneration of the members of the Management Board, including evaluation of the performance of the members of the Management Board in light of these goals and proposals to the Supervisory Board for remuneration based on such evaluations;
• reviewing all equity-based compensation plans and arrangements and making recommendations to the Supervisory Board regarding such plans;
• assisting with identifying and recruiting candidates to fill positions on the Management Board and the Supervisory Board;
• considering any corporate governance issue that arises and developing appropriate recommendations for the Supervisory Board; and
• overseeing the evaluation of the Supervisory Board and reporting on its performance and effectiveness.

Capital Market Committee

Our Capital Markets Committee consists of Helmut Jeggle and Michael Motschmann. Mr. Jeggle is the chair of the committee. The Capital Markets Committee advises and makes recommendations to the Supervisory Board on issues in connection with capital measures and takeover, merger and acquisition activities. Its responsibilities include the following tasks:

• overseeing the activities of the Company relating to its capital structure and capital raising, including preparation for and implementation of public offerings and share issuances; and
• overseeing the activities of the Company relating to takeovers, mergers and acquisitions.

5.2.2 Management Board

Our Management Board consists of at least two members. Our Supervisory Board determines the exact number of members of our Management Board. Pursuant to the Articles of Association, the Supervisory Board may also appoint a chairperson or a spokesman of the Management Board. Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D. has been appointed the chair of the Management Board.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Expiry of mandate</th>
<th>Position (main responsibilities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D.</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer (Research and Development, Scientific Collaborations, Patent Filings, Quality Assurance and Project Management)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Marett</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Chief Business Officer and Chief Commercial Officer (Business Development, Alliance Management, Marketing and Sales, Legal and Intellectual Property)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sierk Poetting</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2026</td>
<td>Chief Operating Officer (Production, IT, Laboratories and Infrastructure, and Internal Communications)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Özlem Türeci, M.D.</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>2025(2)</td>
<td>Chief Medical Officer (Clinical Development, Regulatory and Medical Affairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Richardson</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Chief Strategy Officer (Corporate Strategy, Capital Market Responsibility and Investor Relations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jens Holstein</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2025</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer (Finance, Human Resources, Risk Management and Purchasing)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Initial term until May 31, 2022 (renewed as from March 1, 2022, until May 31, 2025).

The appointment of Jens Holstein to the Management Board became effective on July 1, 2021.

The members of our Management Board are appointed by our Supervisory Board for a term of up to five years. They are eligible for reappointment or extension, including repeated re-appointment and extension, after the completion of their term in office, in each case again for up to an additional five years. Under certain circumstances, such as a serious breach of duty or a vote of no confidence by the shareholders in a shareholders’ meeting, a member of the Management Board may be removed from office by our Supervisory Board prior to the expiration of his or her term.

The members of our Management Board conduct the daily business of the Company in accordance with applicable laws, our Articles of Association and the rules of procedure for the Management Board adopted by our Supervisory Board. They are generally responsible for the management of our company and for handling our daily business relations with third parties, the internal organization of our business and communications with our shareholders.

A member of the management board of an SE governed by German law may not deal with or vote on matters relating to proposals, arrangements or contractual agreements between himself or herself and the company, and a member of our Management Board may be liable to us if he or she has a material interest in any contractual agreement between the Company and a third party which is not disclosed to and approved by our Supervisory Board.

The rules of procedure for our Management Board provide that certain matters require a resolution of the entire Management Board, in addition to transactions for which a resolution adopted by the entire Management Board is required by law or required by our Articles of Association. In particular, the entire Management Board shall decide on, among others:

- the budget plan for the following year, which is to be presented by the Management Board to the Supervisory Board by December 20 of each year;
- reporting to the Supervisory Board;
- all measures and transactions that require the Supervisory Board’s approval;
- all measures and transactions relating to a business area that is of extraordinary importance to us or involving an extraordinary economic risk;
- taking on new lines of business or discontinuing existing lines of business;
- acquisitions or sales of interests or holdings; and
- certain large transactions.

The remuneration of the members of the Management Board is described in the remuneration report, which will be
prepared for the first time for the 2021 financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 162 AktG and published on the website.

5.3 Objectives for the Composition of the Management Board Pursuant to Section 76 para. 4 AktG and the Supervisory Board Pursuant to Section 111 para. 5 AktG and Diversity Concept

Our social aspirations in our core business are complemented by good corporate governance. In this context, the staffing of the Management Board and Supervisory Board as well as long-term succession planning must be appropriately adapted to the needs of the Company. In addition to the professional and personal qualifications of the members of the Management Board and the Supervisory Board, we take diversity and the appropriate participation of women into account in the composition of both bodies. Furthermore, we pay attention to a balanced age structure to ensure long-term succession planning and have set the maximum age of Management Board members at 70 years and Supervisory Board members at 80 years. The Management Board and the Supervisory Board are of the opinion that the current composition takes full account of the objectives thus defined for the composition of these bodies.

On May 4, 2020, the Supervisory Board set the target for the proportion of women on the Management Board at 25% and on the Supervisory Board at 25% in accordance with Section 111 para. 5 AktG. The deadline by which this target is to be achieved was set at December 31, 2022.

In addition, the Supervisory Board has developed a competence profile for the entire Board. The competence profile takes into account the following areas: Lifescience experience, Lifescience Sales and Marketing, Accounting, Annual Audit, Controlling (incl. operational controlling, strategic controlling, cash management, risk management), HR, international experience/relevant markets and gender. When filling the entire board, the Supervisory Board always strives to fill out this competence profile.

In our Management Board, which currently consists of six members, Prof. Özlem Türeci, M.D., assumes the function of Chief Medical Officer. Thus, the current female quota of the Management Board is 17%.

In accordance with Section 76 para. 4 of AktG, the Management Board also decided on April 29, 2020, on the target number of women in management positions. The share of women in members of the top management level below the Management Board and the second top management level below the Management Board shall each be at least 30%. The respective target figure is to be reached by December 31, 2022, at the latest.

As of December 31, 2021, a total of 43% (previous year: 45%) of the members of the top management level below the BioNTech Management Board are women. At the second highest management level below the Management Board, 52% (previous year: 45%) of the positions at BioNTech are held by women as of December 31, 2021. The targets were therefore achieved in both, the 2020 and the 2021 financial year.

5.4 Integrity and Ethics

Compliance & Business Ethics

BioNTech has implemented a fully-fledged compliance and ethics program consisting of three typical compliance program elements: prevention, detection and response.

Prevention

The Compliance & Business Ethics team makes all applicable policies and guidelines, as well as a number of relevant tools, available to employees through the BioNTech Best Practices (BxP) Hub platform. The BxP Hub is also used for digital training (e-learnings, online videos, etc.). Furthermore, employees can use this platform to register potential conflicts of interest and gifts and invitations from external parties, both received and given. The Compliance & Business Ethics Team ensures the prevention of compliance risks by proactively communicating with employees and advising on all risky business relationships.

Detection

Through continuous monitoring and audits, risks are identified at an early stage and addressed by the Compliance & Business Ethics team. Monitoring and audits therefore not only mean looking for errors and violations, but also checking holistically in which areas the compliance processes can be improved. Of course, the Compliance & Business Ethics team also offers employees the opportunity to report violations and risks of any kind through the “Contact Point
for Ethics Protection” in the BxP Hub – anonymously and without negative consequences.

**Response**

Response:

In cases of suspicion, the Compliance & Business Ethics team conducts internal investigations. If breaches of rules are identified, they are analyzed for any procedural weaknesses in order to remedy them. Disciplinary measures are initiated in the event of serious violations.

The resources for the further development and implementation of the compliance program were significantly increased in 2021. For example, the number of employees in the Compliance & Business Ethics team has increased fourfold in 2021. This is to ensure that the Compliance & Business Ethics Team is able to cope with the growing organization and to adequately address any new risks that may arise. Overall responsibility for the compliance program lies with the Management Board. The Audit Committee receives regular reports on the functioning of the compliance program.

In addition to the core tasks carried out by the Compliance & Business Ethics Team, the Company has established a Compliance Advisory Committee (CAC) composed of senior staff from various functions such as Quality Assurance, Legal, Finance, Controlling and Operations to address potential compliance risks in a concerted and cross-functional manner. The CAC reviews and discusses all new policies to ensure cross-functional alignment.

**Code of Business Conduct & Ethics**

To strengthen good corporate governance, the Code of Business Conduct & Ethics was revised in 2019. This code of conduct applies to all members of the Supervisory Board, members of the Management Board, managing directors of the group companies and employees of BioNTech. The code can be accessed online at [www.biontech.de](http://www.biontech.de). It is considered to be the fundamental basis for conduct when performing activities for/on behalf of BioNTech. It provides an overview of the general requirements that reflect compliance with laws, regulations and BioNTech internal policies. It covers, among others, human rights and international labor standards, anti-discrimination, patient safety, data protection, occupational safety, anti-corruption and fair competition. The code is communicated to every BioNTech employee and all employees are required to sign to understand and comply. In addition, compliance with the code has become part of BioNTech’s employment contracts from April 2021. If an employee violates the Code of Business Conduct & Ethics, this may result in a number of disciplinary consequences, up to and including termination of employment.

**Conflict of Interest Policy**

BioNTech has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy that sets out the procedures by which the Company manages potential and actual conflicts of interest. According to the Conflicts of Interest Policy, which applies to all Supervisory Board members, Management Board members, managing directors of BioNTech’s group companies and employees of the Company, any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest must be disclosed in the BxP Hub mentioned above. If the conflict is of a transactional nature and involves a member of the Management Board or the Supervisory Board, respectively, decides whether to approve the transaction with the abstention of the conflicted member.

**Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption (ABAC) Policy**

BioNTech is committed to eliminating all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery. BioNTech underlined these principles by signing the UN Global Compact in March 2020.

The Company has an Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy (ABAC), which is subject to an annual review (latest version dated November 2020). According to this, BioNTech has a zero tolerance policy towards corruption and bribery and prohibits any form of bribery (passive or active; indirect or direct). Every employee and consultant who provides services to the Company on a longer-term basis is required to receive training on the ABAC policy and to sign it. In addition, the ABAC clauses are part of every contract entered into with high risk business partners (sales intermediaries, third parties acting on behalf of BioNTech). For BioNTech, the following applies: Bribery – no matter by whom, at which level, in which organization – is never acceptable.

In addition, the company has implemented a due diligence process for third parties that addresses potential ABAC risks. Based on certain criteria, high-risk third parties are screened for potential risks. Once the third party due diligence process has been utilized, the Legal Department includes ABAC provisions in the relevant contracts as a standard measure to mitigate ABAC risk from third parties acting on behalf of BioNTech.
Donation Policy

A donation policy was developed by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team and approved directly by the Management Board. A donation policy was approved and implemented by the Management Board on November 1, 2020. The policy defines donations and the approval process for donations made by BioNTech. Donations must be within the defined donation strategy and policy and are reviewed and approved individually by the Compliance Advisory Committee.

All donations are reviewed against the following basic requirements:

- The donation is made to a charitable or non-profit organization and not to an individual or for-profit company. Donations are not made to health care organizations.
- There are no parallel (business) relationships between BioNTech and the organization receiving the donation.
- BioNTech may not receive parallel benefits from the receiving organization, including affiliated organizations
- The donation does not serve the personal interests of any individual
- The donation does not directly/specifically serve the commercial interests of BioNTech.
- The receiving organization is duly registered or accredited under applicable local laws to receive donations.

6 Remuneration Report

The remuneration report for the 2021 financial year is prepared for the first time in accordance with the requirements of Section 162 AktG and published on the website at www.biontech.de.

7 Non-Financial Report

Since our founding, we have focused on our vision of harnessing the power of the immune system to combat human disease and major health burdens for which there are currently no or inadequate medical therapies. This approach has led to a robust and diversified product pipeline in oncology and infectious diseases. Our COVID-19 vaccine, the first mRNA therapy ever approved and our first commercial product, emerged from our product pipeline that includes over 17 clinical-stage product candidates and more than 30 research programs.

We support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our research and development work makes an important contribution to supporting the United Nations’ third Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 3): To ensure healthy lives and promote well-being at all ages. This is in line with our core commitment to global social responsibility. At the heart of our business practices is the goal that people around the globe benefit from our research and innovations. As part of this effort, we continue to focus on urgent medical needs and fair and equitable access to new medicines.

Climate Strategy

These efforts only make sense in the long term in a healthy world where planetary boundaries are respected. If humanity does not succeed in limiting global warming to 1.5 °C compared to pre-industrial levels, severe consequences for people and nature all over the world are to be expected. We therefore support the legally binding global agreement on climate change, or Paris Agreement adopted at the 21st United Nations Climate Change Conference, or COP 21 at the end of 2015 and the UN’s 13th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 13) to take immediate action to address the climate crisis and its impacts.

Against this background, we are contributing to climate protection and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions massively and directly. During the 2021 financial year, a comprehensive climate strategy was developed with the involvement of relevant parts of the company and several Management Board members.

We are addressing the climate crisis by minimizing the impact of our operations and reducing GHG emissions in operations and throughout the value chain. Based on the best practice standard of the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTI) and in line with the definitions of the scientific community, our 2030 climate neutrality target will be aligned with science-based mitigation targets for both operations and our value chain.

Based on the analyses and preliminary work carried out during the 2021 financial year and after consultation with the Supervisory Board, the Management Board set emission reduction targets in line with the Science Based Targets Initiative during the first quarter of 2022. These, as well as further information on our emissions and reduction measures, will be presented in the Sustainability Report 2021 and published on the homepage at www.biontech.de. To
achieve these short-term Science Based Targets, we plan to integrate GHG emission reduction targets into expansion and investment planning, supply and value chain management and operations, and recognize additional CapEx, OpEx and RTD requirements.

From a risk perspective, we are also aware of the impact of climate change on our business. To mitigate climate risks, we will increase our focus on change and physical climate risks and opportunities in 2022 and 2023. Within the next two years, we aim to report on climate-related risks and opportunities in line with the recommendations of the TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures), including potential climate risks in the supply chain.

**ESG Ratings**

Our efforts were recognized by Institutional Shareholder Services’ responsible investment arm, ISS ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) in 2021: ISS ESG awarded BioNTech a “Prime” ESG rating (top 10% of the industry) following the publication of the first sustainability report for the 2020 financial year.

The S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (S&P CSA) gave us an overall score of 20 out of 100 as a non-participating company in 2021 (S&P Global ESG Score). These are companies that are only rated based on publicly available information and do not actively participate in the CSA. The rating was last updated on November 12, 2021 and is updated annually or in response to significant developments.7

**CSR Management**

Our CSR management, including the fields of action, the material CSR topics as well as the CSR program, will be presented in detail in the separate Sustainability Report 2021 and made available online at [www.biontech.de](http://www.biontech.de).

With the publication of relevant and material non-financial information, we address all stakeholders and especially investors with high expectations regarding the performance of companies in the areas of environmental, social and governance (ESG).

**8 Events after the Reporting Period**

A detailed description of the events after the reporting period can be found in the notes to the consolidated financial statements and the financial statements of BioNTech SE.

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7 Source: [https://www.spglobal.com/esg/scores/results?cid=5164480](https://www.spglobal.com/esg/scores/results?cid=5164480)
Mainz, March 29, 2022
BioNTech SE

Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer, CEO

Jens Holstein
Chief Financial Officer, CFO

Sean Marett
Chief Business Officer, CBO and Chief Commercial Officer, CCO

Dr. Sierk Poetting
Chief Operating Officer, COO

Prof. Özlem Türeci, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer, CMO

Ryan Richardson
Chief Strategy Officer, CSO