



# PRESS RELEASE

17 September 2014

## **SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT HAS PURCHASED THE 24.14% INTEREST HELD IN AGBAR FROM LA CAIXA GROUP**

### **LA CAIXA GROUP BECOMES THE SECOND LARGEST SHAREHOLDER IN SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT**

SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT, in line with the schedule of the deal announced in July 2014, has just purchased the remaining 24.14% stake in AGBAR held by La Caixa Group, its long-term partner, in exchange for SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT new shares and for a cash payment.

SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT's Board of Directors held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014 confirmed the valuation of the 24.14% interest in AGBAR, which was based on the report of the Contributions Auditor, and authorised payment for this contribution in the form of a reserved capital increase involving the issuance of 22 million new shares, and a cash payment of €298.6 million.

This transaction marks the completion of the first step of the master agreement signed with La Caixa Group on 17 July 2014, and enables La Caixa Group to become SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT's second largest shareholder within a long-term partnership between both groups.

In accordance with the master agreement, in payment for its contribution, La Caixa Group received 22 million shares<sup>1</sup> newly issued representing a 4.1% interest in SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT, and has expressed its intention to increase its stake to 7% in the short-term.

According to the master agreement, Isidro Faine, La Caixa Group's representative, will become a member of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT's Board of Directors once La Caixa Group owns more than 5% of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT's shares.

The timetable for the other two transactions included in the master agreement remains unchanged. These two transactions involve<sup>2</sup>:

- the purchase from AGBAR by La Caixa Group of a 15% interest in Aigües de Barcelona, the company that manages the drinking water and the wastewater contract for the Barcelona Metropolitan Area;
- the purchase by La Caixa Group of a 14.5% interest in Aguas de Valencia from SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT.

SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT is reinforcing its shareholder structure thanks to this operation: La Caixa Group, a highly reputable shareholder, is investing in the Group as part of a long-term commitment. With a lock-up period of 4 years, La Caixa Group will become the second largest shareholder of the Group.

#### **ABOUT SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT**

*Natural resources are not infinite. Every day, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT (Paris: SEV, Brussels: SEVB) and its subsidiaries deal with the challenge of protecting resources by providing innovative solutions to industries and to millions of people. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT supplies drinking water to 97 million people, provides wastewater treatment services for 66 million people and collects the waste produced by 50 million people. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT has 79,549 employees and, with its presence on five continents, is a world leader exclusively dedicated to water and waste management services. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT generated total revenues of EUR 14.6 billion in 2013.*

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<sup>1</sup> Following this issuance, the number of shares making up the capital of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT COMPANY will rise to 540 233 829.

<sup>2</sup> To be completed by the end of December 2014