

Paris, May 4, 2011

## Combined Shareholders' Meeting of May 4, 2011

*press release*

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The Combined Shareholders' Meeting, chaired by **Benoît Potier, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company**, in the presence of the members of the Board of Directors, was attended by **5,099 people**, on Wednesday, May 4, at the Palais des Congrès in Paris. The shareholders, representing 50.18 % of the voting rights, *i.e.*, 145,644 shareholders present or represented, **approved** all of the **proposed resolutions**.

The **proposed dividend**, with an ex date of May 11 and payment date of May 16, **was approved**: it is fixed at **€2.35 per share**, up **+11.4%** taking notably into account the free share allocation issued on May 28, 2010. Shares held in registered form continually from December 31, 2008 until May 16, 2011, the payment date of the dividend, will be granted a **10% bonus dividend of €0.23** per share.

The Meeting renewed **the terms of office** of **Mr. Gérard de La Martinière** and **Mr. Cornelis van Lede**, and **appointed Ms. Siân Herbert-Jones**, Chief Financial Officer, member of the Executive Committee of the Sodexo group, **as director**, for a period of four years.

The Board of Directors is currently comprised of **13 members**, including **3 women**, and **5 nationalities**. 10 of its members are **independent**. The Board offers a variety of complementary experiences, nationalities and cultures and reflects the policy of diversity pursued by the Group.

At the meeting which was held following the Combined Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors renewed the term of office of **Mr. Pierre Dufour** as **Senior Executive Vice-President** for a period of three years.

Commenting on the 2010 financial year and the outlook for growth within the strategic ALMA 2015 program, **Benoît Potier, Chairman and CEO**, stated:

*"Air Liquide has quickened its pace since the crisis. The Group consolidated its market positions while strengthening its financial solidity. The new momentum, spurred by the ALMA 2015 program, will allow the Group to seize growth opportunities and accelerate its long-term development."*

*Thanks to the loyalty of its shareholders, the expertise of the company and its employees in serving customers, the Air Liquide Group can continue to look to the future with confidence."*

### Air Liquide Share ownership

- **40%** of the capital held by non-French institutional investors
- **36%** of the capital held by individual shareholders
- **23%** of the capital held by French institutional investors
- **1%** treasury shares

(as of December 31, 2010)

### Upcoming dates

#### Dividend ex date:

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

#### Dividend payment date:

From Monday, May 16, 2011

#### 2011 first half results:

Monday, August 1, 2011

**Air Liquide is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment**, and is present in **80 countries** with **43,600 employees**. Oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen and rare gases have been at the core of Air Liquide's activities since its creation in 1902. Using these molecules, Air Liquide continuously reinvents its business, anticipating the needs of current and future markets. The Group innovates to enable progress, to achieve dynamic growth and a consistent performance.

**Innovative technologies** that curb polluting emissions, lower industry's energy use, recover and reuse natural resources or develop the energies of tomorrow, such as hydrogen, biofuels or photovoltaic energy... Oxygen for hospitals, homecare, fighting nosocomial infections... Air Liquide combines many products and technologies to develop valuable applications and services not only for its customers but also for society.

**A partner for the long term**, Air Liquide relies on employee commitment, customer trust and shareholder support to pursue its vision of sustainable, competitive growth. The **diversity** of Air Liquide's teams, businesses, markets and geographic presence provides a solid and sustainable base for its development and strengthens its ability to push back its own limits, conquer new territories and build its future.

**Air Liquide explores the best that air can offer to preserve life, staying true to its sustainable development approach**. In 2010, the Group's revenues amounted to **€13.5 billion**, of which more than 80% were generated outside France. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris Euronext stock exchange (compartment A) and is a member of the CAC 40 and Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50 indexes.