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of four calendar years following the respective grant date of the relevant tranche of stock options and the corresponding exercise declaration. Stock options can only be exercised if the vesting period has expired and a performance target has been achieved, otherwise the stock options expire without compensation.

Exercisable stock options can generally be exercised by the beneficiaries within an exercise period of two years. The exercise period begins after the date on which the waiting period has expired. Upon exercise of the stock options, the exercise price is payable for each share to be subscribed. The "exercise price" corresponds to the EUR amount of the weighted average closing price of a share in Xetra trading (or a comparable successor system) during the 30 trading days immediately prior to the grant date, but at least the lowest issue amount within the meaning of Section 9 (1) AktG.

The Executive Board or, in certain cases, the Supervisory Board shall be authorized to determine the further details of the granting and fulfillment of stock options for the issue of shares from the Conditional Capital 2020 as amended on July 6, 2022 (see below) as well as the further plan conditions, including the treatment of stock options if beneficiaries have left the service or employment relationship with the Company or an affiliated company at the end of the vesting period.

The total volume of the stock option programs (Stock Option Program as of 2020, Stock Option Program as of 2021 and Stock Option Program 2022) shall thus also continue to comprise option rights for the subscription of up to 2,443,887 no-par value bearer or registered shares of the Company. The term of the authorization shall also end unchanged on June 29, 2026.

In accordance with the new authorization to be resolved on the issue of stock options on the basis of the Stock Option Program 2022, the existing Conditional Capital 2020 as amended on June 30, 2021 shall be supplemented by a reference to the Stock Option Program 2022 without any change in its amount and Section 7 (4) of the Articles of Association shall be revised accordingly.

The Conditional Capital 2020, as amended on July 6, 2022, now up for resolution in the amount of EUR 2,443,887 continues to correspond to 10 percent of the current share capital of the Company and serves to enable the Company to issue new shares and use them to transfer them to the beneficiaries in the event that they exercise the stock options granted to them. The new shares will only be issued if stock options have been issued to beneficiaries in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annual General Meeting resolutions of July 22, 2020, June 30, 2021 and July 6, 2022 and the beneficiaries exercise their subscription rights after expiry of the waiting period and in accordance with the achievement of the performance targets set out in the respective authorizations and the conditions otherwise set out in the Stock Option Program as of 2020, the Stock Option Program as of 2021 and the Stock Option Program 2022 proposed for resolution under agenda item 8. Due to the earmarking of the Conditional Capital 2020 as amended on July 6, 2022, shareholders have no subscription rights to the new shares.



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The Executive Board and the Supervisory Board are convinced that the proposed amendment to the authorization to issue stock options under the existing stock option programs and the creation of a new authorization to issue options on the basis of the Stock Option Program 2022 (including the corresponding amendment to the Conditional Capital 2020 as amended on June 30, 2021) are particularly suitable for providing a sustainable performance incentive for the beneficiaries and thus contributing to a sustainable increase in the value of the Company in the interests of the Company and its shareholders.