

# **Report of the statutory auditor on the financial statements**

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## Report of the statutory auditor on the financial statements.

As statutory auditor, we have audited the financial statements of Switzerland Tourism, which comprise the balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows and notes (pages 24–29), for the year ended 31 December 2016.

### **Executive Board's responsibility**

The Executive Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the legal requirements of article 957 to article 960 of the Swiss Code of Obligations (CO). This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Executive Board is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### **Auditor's responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. Our audit is based on the audit of Ernst & Young Ltd and its report to the auditor, whose audit was conducted in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 comply with Swiss law.

### **Other matter**

The financial statements of Switzerland Tourism for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 were audited by another statutory auditor, who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on 18 March 2016.

### **Report on other legal requirements**

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (article 728 CO) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence. In accordance with article 728a paragraph 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of financial statements according to the instructions of the Executive Board.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

### **The statutory auditors**

**Willy Hofstetter**  
Licensed audit expert Chairman  
(Auditor in charge)

**Bernadette Koch**  
Licensed audit expert  
Member

**Andreas Schwab-Gatschet**  
Licensed audit expert  
Member