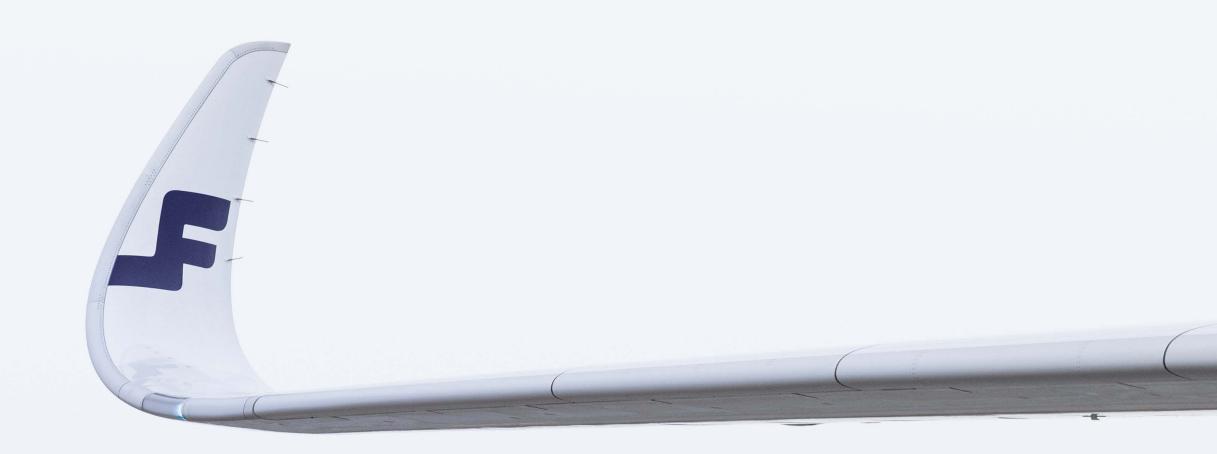
# **Corporate Governance Statement 2020**



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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020



# Regulatory framework

Finnair Plc ("Finnair" or "the Company") is a Finnish public limited liability company domiciled in Helsinki. Finnair is the ultimate parent of Finnair Group, and its shares are listed on Nasdaq Helsinki Stock Exchange. The State of Finland is the majority owner in Finnair with 55.9% of the shares as of 31 December 2020.

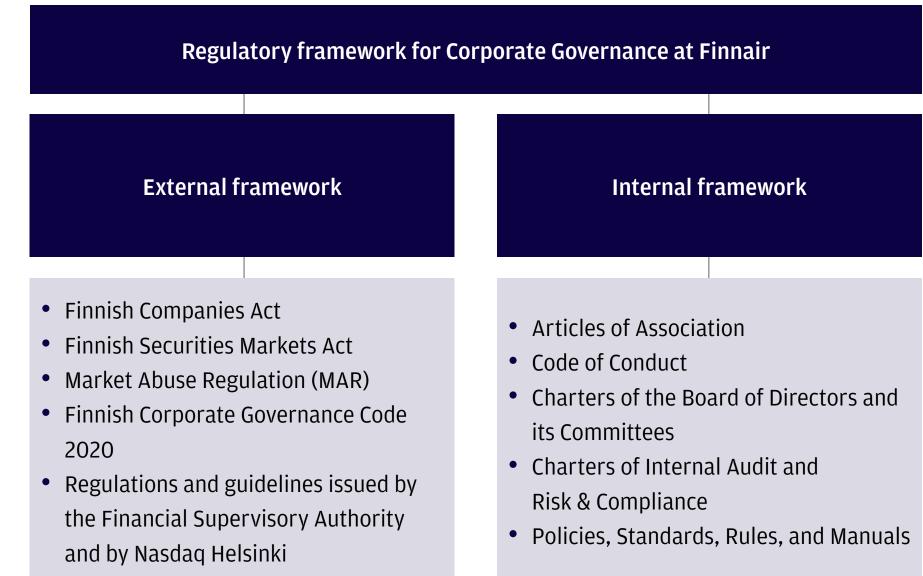
Corporate governance at Finnair is based on Finnish laws and the Company's Articles of Association. Finnair complies fully with and has prepared this corporate governance statement in accordance with the Finnish Corporate Governance Code 2020. This corporate governance statement is issued separately from the Board of Directors' report, and it has been reviewed by the Audit Committee of Finnair's Board of Directors.

Finnair prepares consolidated financial statements and interim reports in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), the Finnish Securities Markets Act as well as the Financial Supervision Authority's regulations and guidelines and Nasdaq Helsinki's rules. The Company's financial statements are

prepared in accordance with the Finnish Companies Act, Accounting Act, Securities Markets Act, and the opinions and guidelines of the Finnish Accounting Board. The auditor's report covers the consolidated financial statements and the parent company's financial statements.

This corporate governance statement and other information to be disclosed in accordance with the Finnish Corporate Governance Code 2020, the Company's financial statements, the Board of Directors' report, the auditor's report, the Company's Articles of Association and its published policies are available at Finnair's website.

The Finnish Corporate Governance Code 2020 is available on the <u>website</u> of the Securities Market Association.



# **Governing bodies**

The governing bodies of Finnair pursuant to the Companies Act and the Articles of Association are the General Meeting of Shareholders, the Board of Directors (the "Board") and the Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO").

The roles of the governing bodies are described below.

### **General Meeting of Shareholders**

The ultimate authority in Finnair is vested in the General Meeting of Shareholders. An Annual General Meeting (the "AGM") must be held each year by the end of May.

The competence of the General Meeting of Shareholders is set out in the Companies Act and in Finnair's Articles of Association. The AGM shall annually decide on the following matters:

- adoption of the financial statements and the consolidated financial statements
- the use of the profit shown on the balance sheet
- the discharging of the Members of the Board and the CEO from liability
- the appointment of the Members of the Board and their remuneration
- election of the Chairman of the Board from among the Members

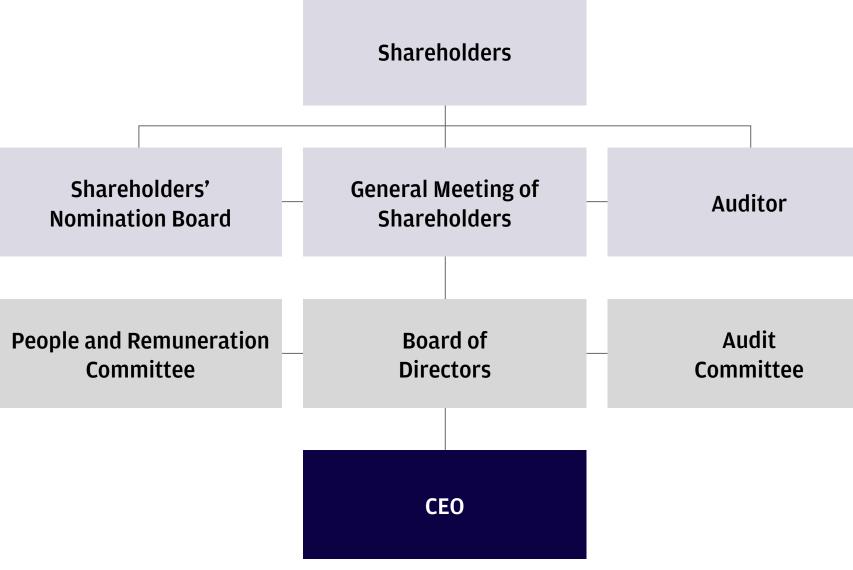
 the electio auditor.

The Board convenes the General Meetings of Shareholders by publishing a notice no earlier than three months and no later than three weeks before the date of the meeting and always at least nine days before the record date of the meeting. The notice shall be published as a stock exchange release and on Finnair's <u>website</u>.

Each shareholder who is registered on the record date as a shareholder in the Company's public register of shareholders, maintained by Euroclear Finland Oy, has the right to participate in the General Meeting of Shareholders. A holder of nominee-registered shares that wishes to participate in the meeting has to register temporarily in the register of shareholders. Furthermore, in order to attend the meeting, a shareholder must register for the meeting in the manner defined in the notice convening the meeting. A shareholder has the right to have a matter falling within the competence of the General Meeting of Shareholders addressed by the meeting, if the shareholder so demands in writing from the Board by the date announced on Finnair's website.

#### • the election and remuneration of the

#### **GOVERNING BODIES OF FINNAIR**



The minutes of the General Meeting of Shareholders and the voting results, if any, shall be made available to shareholders on Finnair's <u>website</u> within two weeks of the meeting.

#### 2020 Annual General Meeting

Finnair's AGM 2020 was held at the headquarters of the Company in Vantaa on 29 May 2020. The Board of Directors of the Company decided by virtue of Section 2, Subsection 3 of the temporary legislative act 290/2020 to limit the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic approved by the Finnish Parliament on 24 April 2020 ("Temporary Act"), that the Company's shareholders and their proxy representatives could participate in the meeting and exercise shareholder rights only through voting in advance as well as



by making counterproposals and asking questions in advance. A total of 238 shareholders, representing 66.6 per cent of the shares and voting rights of the company, participated by voting in advance. No counterproposals or questions were presented by shareholders.

Present at the meeting were Chairman of the Board of Directors Mr. Jouko Karvinen, member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Audit Committee Mr. Jukka Erlund, Chief Executive Officer Mr. Topi Manner, General Counsel Mr. Sami Sarelius, IR Director Mr. Erkka Salonen (remote access), Chairman of the General Meeting Mr. Manne Airaksinen, person to confirm the minutes and to verify the counting of votes Ms. Vuokko Rajamäki, the responsible auditor appointed by the Company's audit firm Mr. Markku Katajisto and the new responsible auditor candidate Ms. Kirsi Jantunen. In addition, the representative of the Company's annual general meeting registration and voting service provider Euroclear Finland Oy, Jarkko Heinonen, attended by telephone.

#### **Auditor**

The Annual General Meeting 2020 elected KPMG Oy Ab as the Company's new auditor, and Ms. Kirsi Jantunen acted as the auditor with principal responsibility.

The audit fees paid in 2020 amounted to 0.5 million euros, and the fees for other services rendered amounted to 0.3 million euros.

## **Shareholders' Nomination Board**

The AGM 2013 decided to establish a permanent Shareholders' Nomination Board. The term of the Nomination Board continues until further notice.

The purpose and task of the Nomination Board is to prepare and present to the AGM - and if necessary, to an Extraordinary General Meeting - proposals on the composition and remuneration of Board of Directors. In addition, the task of the Nomination Board is to seek potential future candidates for Board members. The Nomination Board shall forward its proposals to the Company's Board of Directors by 31 January each year.

The Nomination Board consists of four members nominated annually. The Company's three largest shareholders appoint three of the members, and the current Chairman of the Board serves as the fourth member. The Nomination Board appoints its chairman from among its members. The Company's largest shareholders entitled to appoint members to the Nomination Board are determined on the basis of the registered holdings in the Company's shareholder register held by Euroclear Finland Oy as of the first working day in September each year. In the event that a shareholder does not wish to exercise their right to appoint a representative, such right passes to the next largest shareholder.

The members of the Nomination Board are not remunerated by Finnair for their membership in the Nomination Board. The members' expenses are reimbursable in accordance with the Company's expense policy. In addition, the Nomination Board's costs of using external experts shall be borne by the Company.

The Charter of the Nomination Board is available at the Company <u>website</u>.

#### **2019 Nomination Board**

The 2019 Nomination Board consisted of the representatives of the first, third and fourth largest shareholders as at the first working day in September 2019, i.e. the State of Finland, Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company and Etola Oy (through its subsidiaries Tiiviste-Group Oy and Etra Invest Oy), and of the Chairman of the Board. The composition of the 2019 Nomination Board was the following:

- Ms. Minna Pajumaa, b. 1963, Senior
  Financial Counsellor, Government
  Ownership Steering Department (Chairman)
- Mr. Timo Sallinen, b. 1970, Senior Vice President, Investments, Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company
- Mr. Mikael Etola, b. 1977, Managing Director, Etola Oy
- Mr. Jouko Karvinen, b. 1957, Chairman of the Board of Finnair.

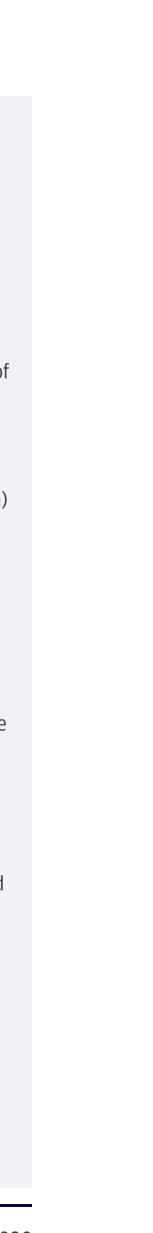
The Nomination Board convened once in 2019 and the participation rate was 100%. On 27 January 2020, the Nomination Board submitted to the Board its proposals for the 2020 AGM that was planned to be held on 18 March 2020 but which was postponed due to the Covid-19 containment measures. On 5 May, the Nomination Board submitted its complementary proposal for the 2020 AGM that was held on 29 May 2020. The proposals are available at Finnair's <u>website</u>.

### **2020 Nomination Board**

The 2020 Nomination Board consisted of the representatives of the first, third and fourth largest shareholders as at the first working day in September 2020, i.e. the State of Finland, Ilmarinen Mutual Pension Insurance Company, Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company, and of the Chairman of the Board. The composition of the 2020 Nomination Board was the following:

- Ms. Minna Pajumaa, b. 1963, Senior
  Financial Counsellor, Government
  Ownership Steering Department (Chairman)
- Mr. Esko Torsti, b. 1964, Head of Cross
  Asset Allocation, Ilmarinen Mutual Pension
  Insurance Company
- Mr. Timo Sallinen, b. 1970, Senior Vice President, Investments, Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company
- Mr. Jouko Karvinen, b. 1957, Chairman of the Board of Finnair.

The Nomination Board convened three times and the participation rate was 100%. On 26 January 2021, the Nomination Board submitted to the Board its proposals for the 2021 AGM to be held on 17 March 2021. The proposals are available at Finnair's <u>website</u>.



## **Board of Directors**

The Chairman and the Members of the Board are elected by the Annual General Meeting. According to the Articles of Association, the Board consists of the Chairman and a minimum of four and a maximum of nine other members. The Board elects a Vice Chairman from among its members. The term of the office of the members of the Board ends at the close of the first AGM following their election.

According to the Companies Act, the Board represents all shareholders of Finnair and has the general duty to act diligently in the interests of the Company. The Board is accountable to the shareholders for the appropriate governance of the Company and for ensuring that the operations of the Company are run adequately.

The accountability for the Company's governance pertains specifically to the reliability of the financial reporting and to the efficiency of the Company's internal control and risk management systems. The main features of the internal control and risk management systems are described later in this Corporate Governance Statement. The Board has extensive general competence

in the governance of the Company as its competence covers all matters that are not within the powers of other governing bodies of the Company.

## The main duties of the Board of **Directors:**

- approve the Company's strategic targets and monitor the achievement of strategic targets
- ensure the administration of the Company and the appropriate organisation of its operations • confirm the values and top-level
- monitor and ensure the appropriateness of the accounting, financial administration and risk management
- approve significant strategic matters, business plans, partnerships and other decisions exceeding the limits of the CEO's

- policies of the Company

decision-making power

- decide on guarantees and other commitments for external parties' liabilities
- appoint and dismiss the CEO and other members of the Executive Board, as well as evaluate their performance and determine their remuneration, also attend to the succession planning of the management
- establish and regularly evaluate the Company's personnel policies and its compensation systems
- evaluate its own work on an annual basis
- prepare and approve the charters of the Board of Directors and its Committees and confirm the charters of the Internal Audit and Risk & Compliance

The Charter of the Board of Directors is available on the Finnair's Corporate Governance website.



# Members of the **Board in 2020**



#### Jouko Karvinen

b. 1957, M. Sc. (Tech.)

Chairman of the Finnair Board of Directors since March 2017 and member of the Board since March 2016

Main occupation:

Board professional

#### **Key positions of trust:**

Member of the Foundation and Supervisory Boards of IMD Business School, Lausanne, Switzerland



#### **Montie Brewer**

b. 1957, BA (Business Administration). Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2018

Main occupation:

Board professional

Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors of Allegiant Travel Company



А

 $\mathbf{PR}$ 

#### Mengmeng Du

b. 1980, M. Sc. (Econ.), M. Sc. (Computer science) Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2017

Main occupation:

Digital advisor, board professional

Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors of Skandia, Netonnet Group and Claes Ohlson



#### Maija Strandberg

+-

b. 1969, M.Sc. (Econ) Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 29 May 2020

#### Main occupation:

Senior Financial Counsellor Prime Minister's office, Government Ownership Steering Department

#### Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Audit committee of Nordic Morning Group. Member of the Board of Directors of Vapo Oyj



#### Jaana Tuominen

b. 1960, M. Sc. (Eng.). Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2014

Main occupation:

Advisor

#### Key positions of trust:

Chair of the Board of Directors of the Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)



#### Tiina Alahuhta-Kasko

b. 1981, M. Sc. (Econ.), CEMS MIM. Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2019

#### Main occupation:

President & CEO of Marimekko Corporation

Key positions of trust:



PR

Α

#### **Colm Barrington**

b. 1946, M. Sc. (Econ.) Vice Chairman and member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2017

Main occupation: CEO and Director of Fly Leasing Limited Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors of Hibernia REIT Plc









PR

#### **Jukka Erlund**

b. 1974, M. Sc. (Econ.), eMBA. Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2019

#### Main occupation:

Executive Vice President, CFO, of Kesko Oyj

#### Key positions of trust:

The Chair of the Tax and Economic Policy Committee of Finnish Commerce Federation, Member of the Economy and Tax Committee of Confederation of Finnish Industries EK, and Member of the Supervisory Board of Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company (until 22.10.2020)



#### Henrik Kjellberg -

b. 1971, M. Sc. (Econ.). Member of the Finnair Board of Directors since 2018 Main occupation:

CEO of Awaze

Key positions of trust:

#### Committees

A = Audit Committee

**PR** = People and Remuneration Committee









## Members of the Board and their independence

The 2020 Annual General Meeting held on 29 May elected Mr. Jouko Karvinen as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Ms. Tiina Alahuhta-Kasko, Mr. Colm Barrington, Mr. Montie Brewer, Ms. Mengmeng Du, Mr. Jukka Erlund, Mr. Henrik Kjellberg, Ms. Maija Strandberg and Ms. Jaana Tuominen as other members of the Board. The Board elected Mr. Colm Barrington as its Vice Chairman.

Finnair complies with applicable requirements regarding independence of the Board of Directors according to Finnish laws and regulations as well as according to the Finnish Corporate Governance Code. The Board considers all the members elected by the shareholders, except for Ms. Maija Strandberg and Mr. Jukka Erlund, to be independent of the Company and independent in relation to the Company's major shareholders according to the Code. Ms. Maija Strandberg is considered dependent on the Company's significant owners as she is a civil servant of the government of Finland. Mr. Jukka Erlund was considered dependent on the Company until 30 June 2020 because

Piia Karhu, Finnair's Senior Vice President in Customer Experience and a member of the Executive Board until 30 June 2020, is a member of Kesko Corporation's Board of Directors and Jukka Erlund is the Chief Financial Officer of Kesko Oyj.

## The ownership of the Directors and companies controlled by them in Finnair

At the end of 2019 and 2020, neither the members of the Board of Directors nor any companies under their control held any shares or share-based rights in any company within Finnair Group.

## The Committees of the Board

The Board delegates some of its functions to the Audit Committee and to the People and Remuneration Committee. The Board appoints the Committee members and their Chairs from among the members of the Board. The minimum number of members is three in both Committees.

Each Committee meets regularly under their respective charters. The Committees report on their work regularly to the Board but they do not have decision-making

#### Number of the Board meetings and Board Committee meetings in 2020 and the attendance rate of the members

Member	Board of Directors	Audit Committee	People and Remuneration Committee
Jouko Karvinen	16/16		
Tiina Alahuhta-Kasko	16/16		9/9
Colm Barrington	16/16	7/7	
Montie Brewer	16/16	7/7	
Mengmeng Du	16/16		9/9
Jukka Erlund	16/16	7/7	1/1
Henrik Kjellberg	16/16	7/7	
Maija Strandberg (member since 29 May)	8/8		7/7
Jaana Tuominen	16/16		9/9

In addition to the sixteen meetings, the board made decisions six times without convening.

powers independent from the Board, except where expressly authorised by the Board. Copies of the Committees' charters are available on Finnair's <u>website</u>.



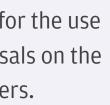
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## The diversity principles of the Board of Directors

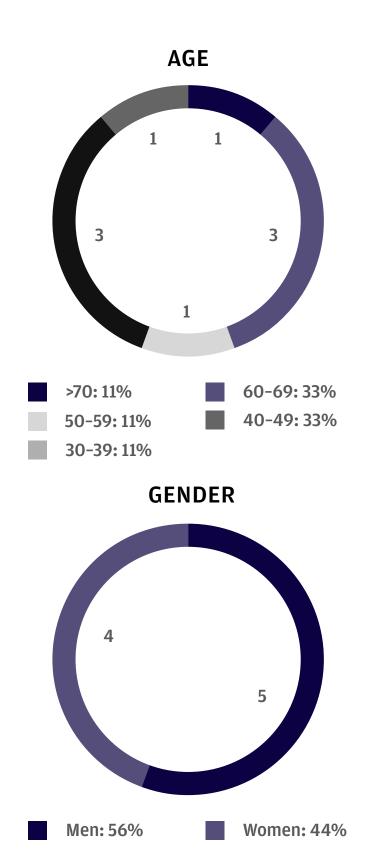
The Board of Directors has determined its diversity principles for the use of the Shareholders' Nomination Board when preparing proposals on the composition of the Board to the General Meeting of Shareholders.

The diversity principles of the Board of Directors are:

- The Board as a whole must have sufficient expertise and experience to conduct the duties carefully and effectively, taking into account the quality, scope and international nature of the Company's operations, the Company's strategic targets and changes in the business environment and society.
- The members of the Board must be capable of cooperating with the other members and the management.
- The members of the Board should have training and experience that complement each other and experience from industries that are important for the Company.
- The members should have experience of Board work and conducting managerial duties in business or other areas of society.
- The Board shall have at least 40 per cent both men and women. The composition should show diversity also in terms of the age distribution, length of service and cultural background.
- Sufficient continuity should be ensured in reforming the composition of the Board, but the continuous term of any member may not exceed 10 years.

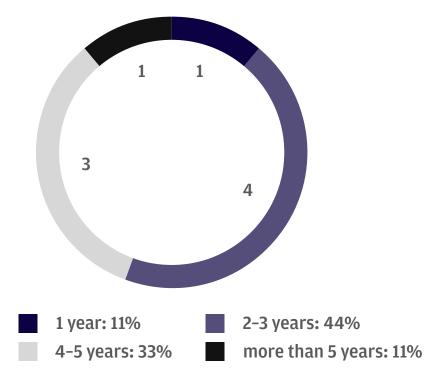


## The diversity of the Board of Directors





TENURE



# **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee assists the Board in matters relating to financial reporting and control in accordance with the duties specified for audit committees in law and in the Finnish Corporate Governance Code.

The Audit Committee monitors and evaluates the Company's reporting process of financial statements and the efficiency of the internal control and risk management systems as well as the internal audit. The Committee monitors the statutory audit and evaluates the independence of the auditor. In addition, the Audit Committee monitors the efficiency of the Company's compliance systems.

Pursuant to the Finnish Corporate Governance Code. the members of the Audit Committee shall have the qualifications necessary to perform the responsibilities of the committee, and at least one of the members shall have expertise specifically in accounting or auditing.

## The main duties of the Audit **Committee:**

- monitor the financial position of the Company
- internal audit
- monitor the statutory audit of the financial statements
- monitor and assess the independence of the statutory auditor, and particularly the provision by auditor of non-audit services to the Company
- review the auditor's and internal

- monitor and assess the financial reporting process
- monitor and assess the efficiency of the Company's internal control and risk management systems as well as
- prepare the Board's proposal for
  - resolution on the election of the
  - auditor and its remuneration

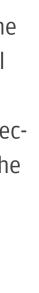
auditor's plans and reports

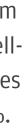
- monitor and assess agreements and transactions between the Company and its related parties with respect to compliance with the governance and disclosure requirements of the same
- review the Company's corporate governance statement
- prepare the Board's decisions on the Company's risk management policies
- monitor the processes and risks relating to cyber security
- prepare the Board's decisions on significant changes in the accounting principles or in the valuations of the group's assets
- assess the efficiency of the Company's compliance systems
- maintain contact with the auditor

In addition to the Committee members, the CEO, the CFO, the auditor, and the General Counsel as secretary to the Committee attend the Committee meetings. Other executives attend the meetings as invited by the Committee.

## Audit Committee in 2020

In 2020, the members of the Audit Committee were Jukka Erlund (Chair), Colm Barrington, Montie Brewer and Henrik Kjellberg. The Audit Committee met seven times in 2020 and its attendance rate was 100%.





# **People and** Remuneration Committee

The People and Remuneration Committee assists the Board in matters pertaining to the compensation and benefits of the CEO and other senior management, their performance evaluation, appointment and successor planning. The Committee assists the Board also in establishing and evaluating the Company's compensation structures and other personnel policies. Pursuant to the Board's authorisation, the Committee reviews and confirms the achievement of targets for short-term incentives and approves the payment of the incentives to the CEO and other senior management.

## The main duties of the People and Remuneration Committee:

The Committee prepares the following matters for the Board:

- the key principles of the Company's compensation policies and practices
- compensation, pension, benefits and other material terms of the contract of the CEO and the Executive Board members

- plans

The CEO, the SVP People and Culture, and the General Counsel as secretary to the Committee attend the Committee meetings.

• CEO's and the Executive Board members' incentive and retention

• CEO's and the Executive Board members' performance reviews • nominations of the CEO and the Executive Board members • composition and responsibilities of the Executive Board CEO's and the Executive Board members' succession planning and leadership development • assessment of the people strategy and key development initiatives • equity-based incentive plans • the remuneration policy for the Company's governing bodies • annual remuneration reporting based on the recommendations of the Finnish Corporate Governance Code for listed companies

## **People and Remuneration Committee in 2020**

After the AGM of 29 May 2020, the Board elected the following members to the People and Remuneration Committee: Jaana Tuominen as the Chair, and Mengmeng Du, Tiina Alahuhta-Kasko and Maija Strandberg as members. Between 1 January and 29 May 2020, Jaana Tuominen acted as the Chair of the Committee and Mengmeng Du and Tiina Alahuhta-Kasko acted as members. Additionally, the Chair of the Audit Committee, Jukka Erlund, attended one meeting of the People and Remuneration Committee. The Committee met nine times in 2020 and the attendance rate was 100%.



# Company management

#### Finnair's corporate structure

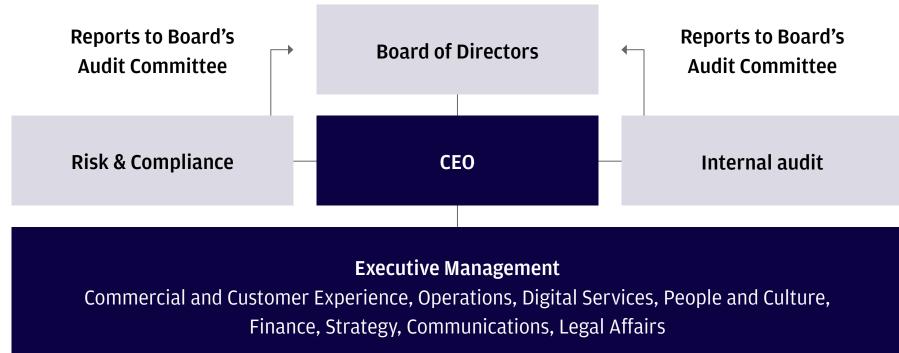
Finnair's core airline activities are operated in the Group's parent company, Finnair Plc, whereas technical services, travel services (package tours), catering services and financial business services are run in wholly owned subsidiaries. Finnair business is considered one operating segment, consisting of the Commercial and Customer Experience, and Operations units. The shared functions in Finnair's Group administration are Finance, People and Culture, Digital Services, Strategy, CommunicaInternal Audit.

#### The CEO

The CEO is appointed by the Board. The CEO manages the Company's operations in accordance with guidelines and instructions issued by the Board. The CEO acts as the Chairman of the Executive Board.

The Board determines the CEO's compensation and sets his short- and long-term incentive targets. The main contents of the

#### **COMPANY MANAGEMENT**



# tions, Legal Affairs, Risk & Compliance, and

CEO's contract, including his compensation and benefits, are described in the Remuneration Statement and on Finnair's corporate governance website.

Mr. Topi Manner, M.Sc. (Econ.), b. 1974, has been the CEO of Finnair since 1 January 2019. Prior to joining Finnair, Manner had a long career in management positions at Nordea, the largest financial group in the Nordic countries, where he worked as a member of Nordea's Group Executive Management and as Head of Personal Banking.

The CEO belongs to Finnair's short- and longterm incentive programs, described in more detail in Note 1.3.8 to the financial statements and in the Remuneration Statement.

## **Executive Board**

The Executive Board of the Company is led by the CEO, and it comprises the senior management responsible for Finnair commercial and customer experience activities, operations, digital services, finance, people and culture, strategy, communications and legal affairs.

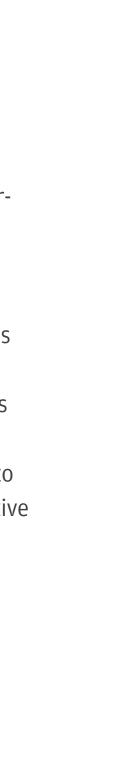
The Executive Board members are appointed by the Board, which also determines their remuneration.

The Executive Board assists the CEO in the strategy implementation, coordinates group-wide development projects and defines policies that guide the Company's activities. The Executive Board members report to the CEO and their main task is to lead the daily operations of their respective units or shared functions.

### **Executive Board subsets**

The governance structure contains two Executive Board subsets which are the Investment Steering Board and Safety Review Board.

The Investment Steering Board acts as the forum for preparing investment decisions for the Executive Board's approval as well as exercises delegated powers to approve investments below a given threshold. The Investment Steering Board is headed by the Chief Financial Officer.



Finnair has a Safety Review Board that is responsible for reviewing the Company's safety policy and assessing the safety performance against the safety policy and objectives. The Safety Review Board reviews the effectiveness of the flight safety, security and compliance management systems relating to safety, and ensures that appropriate resources are allocated to achieve the targeted safety performance. The Safety Review Board is headed by the SVP Operations and it convenes at least four times per year.

#### **Management Board**

The Finnair Management Board is principally a communication and co-operation forum designed for the personnel's participation in the Company's governance processes, especially with regard to matters that affect the personnel. The Management Board discusses the implementation of the Company's strategic objectives and development projects that affect Finnair's personnel as well as business plans and financial performance of the Group, the operational quality and customer satisfaction. The Management Board comprises the Executive Board members, certain senior managers and the representatives of all personnel groups. In 2020, the Finnair Management Board met six times.

## **Corporate Governance in Finnair** subsidiaries

For major subsidiaries, the members of the boards of directors are selected from individuals belonging to Finnair's senior management and, in selected subsidiaries, also from representatives proposed by personnel groups. The subsidiaries of Finnair are presented in the Financial Statements 2020 under Note 4.2.

## Governance principles in key partnerships and outsourcings

Finnair has equity partnership in Nordic Regional Airlines Oy through Nordic Regional Airlines AB (Finnair's ownership 40 per cent as at 31 December 2020). 60 per cent of Nordic Regional Airlines AB is owned by Danish Air Transport (DAT). Nordic Regional Airlines Oy is a Finnish regional passenger airline operating ATR turboprop and Embraer 190 aircraft. Its route network is designed to provide convenient feeder connections to Finnair's European and long-haul routes. Finnair's influence over the governance of the Company is based on shareholding and contractual rights.

Finnair procures certain important operational services from strategic partners, such as the ground handling and cargo terminal handling services in Helsinki hub from Swissport Finland Ltd, and the engine and component services from SR Technics, Lufthansa Technik and Rolls Royce. In the area of IT and mobile services Finnair partners with Amadeus, IBM and Apple, among others. The cost and quality targets of these agreements have been determined so as to correspond at least to a good general market level.

Finnair participates in joint businesses with certain airlines belonging to the **one**world alliance. These joint businesses seek to improve competitiveness and efficiency in a manner benefitting the passengers.

Finnair's influence in the joint businesses is based on contractual arrangements. Decisions by the joint businesses are sought to be made unanimously.

All Finnair's service providers are expected to comply with Finnair's Supplier Code of Conduct. Finnair aims to secure in its supply contracts the rights to audit the Supplier's governance and security measures.

Finnair's Code of Conduct and Supplier Code of Conduct are available on Finnair's website.

# Executive Board members in 2020



## Topi Manner

b. 1974, M.Sc. (Econ.) Main occupation:

CEO as of 1 January 2019

Key positions of trust:

Vice Chairman, Finland Chamber of Commerce Member of the Board of Directors, Elisa

Member of the Board, Service Sector Employers Palta

Shareholding 31 December 2020: 674,068



Tomi Pienimäki

b. 1973, Dr. Tech, M.Sc. (Eng.), M.Sc. (Econ.)

Main occupation: Chief Digital Officer as of 1 October 2019

**Key positions of trust:** Member of the Board of Directors, Router Group Oy

**Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 38,375



**Sami Sarelius** b. 1971, LLM

Main occupation: SVP and General Counsel as of 20 August 2010

Key positions of trust:

**Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 225,000





Piia Karhu (member until 30 Jun 2020)

b. 1976, Dr. Business Administration

Main occupation: SVP Customer Experience from

1 March 2016 until 30 June 2020 Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors, Kesko Oyj 2018-

**Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 16,250



Arja Suominen (member until 31 Oct 2020) b. 1958, MA, e-MBA

Main occupation: SVP Corporate Communications and Corporate Responsibility from 14 March 2011 until 31 October 2020

#### Key positions of trust:

Member of the Board of Directors, Savonlinna Opera Festival Ltd **Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 163,339

13

#### **Nicklas Ilebrand**

b. 1980, M.Sc. (Computer Science)

Main occupation:

SVP Strategy as of 1 May 2019

**Key positions of trust:** Chairman of the Board of Directors,

Nordea Hypotek AB 2016-

**Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 105,705



Johanna Karppi b. 1968, LLM, (trained on bench) Main occupation:

SVP People & Culture as of 1 October 2019

Key positions of trust:

Shareholding 31 December 2020: 16,115



#### **Ole Orvér**

b. 1966, Degree in Market Economics

Main occupation:

Chief Commercial Officer as of 1 May 2019

Key positions of trust:

**Shareholding 31 December 2020:** 87,682

#### Jaakko Schildt

b. 1970, B.Sc. (Eng.), MBA

Main occupation:

SVP Operations as of 1 March 2016

#### Key positions of trust:

Chairman of the Board, Nordic Regional Airlines Oy Member of the Board of Directors, Finnish Aviation Academy Oy Member of the Board of Directors, Kallioinen Yhtiöt Oy

Shareholding 31 December 2020:

127,005



b. 1968, M.Sc. (Econ.) **Main occupation:** Chief Financial Officer (CFO) as of

1 July 2019, interim Chief

Mika Stirkkinen

**Key positions of trust:** Member of the Board of Directors, Nordic Regional Airlines Oy

Shareholding 31 December 2020:

235,680



Päivyt Tallqvist

b. 1970, M.Sc. (Econ.)

Main occupation:

SVP Communications as of 1 November 2020

**Key positions of trust:** 

Shareholding 31 December 2020: 4,939

The CEO's and the Executive Board members' direct and indirect shareholdings in Finnair as at 31 December 2020 are shown in the table above.

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# **Key events in Finnair** governance in 2020

## Shareholders

The ownership profile of Finnair Plc remained unchanged in 2020 as regards name-registered shareholder. The largest shareholder at the end of the year was the Government of Finland, holding 55.90% of the shares and votes, followed by mutual pension insurance company Ilmarinen (2.63%), mutual pension insurance company Varma (2.55%), and Keva (1.70%). The ownership of nominee-registered shareholders almost halved from last year, and was 7.39 % at year-end. The number of shareholders increased from 27,029 to 85,590 between 1 January and 31 December 2020.

Finnair Plc issued 1,279,265,150 new shares in its Rights Issue in June 2020.

The shareholders' Annual General Meeting was held on 29 May 2020.

## **Subsidiaries**

Finnair Kitchen Ltd merged into Finnair Travel Retail Ltd as of 31 December 2020. In connection with the merger, Finnair Travel Retail Ltd's name was changed to Finnair Kitchen Ltd.

#### Auditor

On 29 May 2020, the Annual General Meeting elected KPMG Oy Ab as the Company's auditor for the year 2020.

## Board of Directors and the Executive Board

The composition of the Board of Directors changed in 2020 as one new member was elected by the Annual General Meeting. In 2020, the Board of Directors and the Executive Board focussed on resizing the Company, mitigating the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on different areas of business, ensuring liquidity, as well as defining the Company's post-pandemic rebuild plan.

The composition of the Executive Board changed in 2020 as the SVP Customer Experience position was discontinued on 30 June 2020.

### Management Board

The Management Board's composition changed in 2020 as some of the personnel groups replaced their representatives.

## **Internal Control and Risk** Management

Adherence to the Three Lines of Defence model - with a clear division of roles and responsibilities with respect to internal control and risk management - was further strengthened in 2020. In the second Line of Defence the Risk & Compliance function acts as a control function that is responsible for developing and maintaining the Internal Control Framework and Risk Management Framework as well as for monitoring the implementation of the policies, rules, procedures and key controls within the frameworks.

## **Internal Audit**

Internal audit, the independent assurance function in the third Line of Defence. performed audits according to the annual plan approved by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors and performed also assignments requested by the management.



# Main features of the internal control and risk management systems

Based on the limited liability companies act the management of the Company shall act with due care and promote the interests of the Company. The Board of Directors shall see to the administration of the Company and the appropriate organisation of its operations. The Board is responsible for the appropriate arrangement of the control of the Company accounts and finances. The CEO shall see to the executive management of the Company in accordance with the instructions given by the Board. The CEO shall see to it that the accounts of the Company are in compliance with the law and that its financial affairs have been arranged in a reliable manner.

Internal control and risk management activities are an integral part of the management's overall duty to ensure that the Company achieves its business objectives. Through efficient systems of internal control and risk management, deviations from objectives can be prevented or detected as early as possible. The Board of Directors is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the efficiency of the Company's internal control and risk management systems.

Finnair's Internal Control Framework is the defined set and structure of the Company's internal policies, rules, procedures and key controls. The framework is systematically developed and maintained to ensure

	Three lines of defence		
External audit	First line of defence	Business units and group functions Day to day control and risk management activities.	
		Risk & Compliance	
	Second line of defence	Second line of Oversight and continuous improvement of the internal control and risk manager	
		Operational level	
	Third line of defence	Internal Audit Assessment of control environment, day to day control and risk management activities, and overall maturity of the internal control and risk management system.	
		The Board of Directors	
	Ultimate responsibility	Reasonable assurance of the achievement of Company's strategic and operational objectives, reliability of financial and operational reporting, as well as compliance with laws, regulations and internal policies.	

#### THE ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

the efficiency of the internal control system. The Internal Control Framework is designed to ensure effective and efficient operations, adequate identification, measurement and mitigation of risks, prudent conduct of business, including safeguarding of assets, sound administrative and accounting procedures, reliability of financial and non-financial information both externally and internally, and compliance with laws,



regulations, supervisory requirements and with Finnair's internal policies and rules.

The primary governance principle is adherence to the Three Lines of Defence model, with a clear division of roles and responsibilities with respect to internal control and risk management. A proper Three Lines of Defence governance ensures that the segregation of duties is defined and established between risk management and risk control.

- In the first line of defence, the business organisation and shared functions are risk owners, and thus responsible for conducting day-to-day control and risk management activities in accordance with the Internal Control Framework.
- In the second line of defence, Risk & Compliance acts as a control function that is responsible for developing and maintaining the Internal Control Framework and Risk Management Framework as well as for monitoring the implementation of the policies, rules, procedures and key controls within the frameworks.
- In the third line of defence, Internal Audit performs audits and provides the

Board of Directors with an independent assessment of the overall effectiveness and maturity of the internal control and risk management systems.

## Internal control and risk management systems in relation to financial reporting

The systems for internal control and risk management of financial reporting are designed to provide reasonable assurance about the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applicable laws and regulations, and other requirements for listed companies. Internal control and risk management of financial reporting at Finnair can be described in accordance with the COSO framework which consists of the five components: control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring.

#### Control environment

The control environment constitutes the basis for Finnair's internal control system.

The control environment encompasses the culture and values as well as a clear and transparent organisational structure. Finnair's Internal Control Framework is a fundamental element in the control environment and consists of the Code of Conduct, Finnair Policies, Standards, Rules, and Manuals, as well as the related key controls.

For the proper functioning of the internal control and risk management of financial reporting, clearly defined roles and responsibilities are critical. The risk owners in the first line of defence - i.e. business units, Finance organisation as well as certain other shared functions - are responsible for the risk management activities, whereas Risk & Compliance, being a control function in the second line of defence, facilitates the identification and evaluation of risks, assists the first line of defence in defining the controls, and monitors the implementation of controls and risk management activities. In the third line of defence, Internal Audit provides the Board of Directors with an assessment of the overall effectiveness of the governance, risk management and control processes.

#### **Risk assessment**

Risks are continuously identified and analysed as part of the risk management process. Risk management is an integral part of running the business. Performing risk assessments as part of the business activities improves the relevance and quality of risk assessment. Main responsibility for performing risk assessments regarding financial reporting risks lies with the business organisation and shared functions, i.e. the first line of defence. Processes related to financial reporting are subject to on-going risk assessment by the business controllers, financial controllers and other

shared service staff as part of their activities. Consistent with the Three Lines of Defence model, the role of Risk & Compliance function is to develop and maintain the Finnair Risk Management Framework.

#### **Control activities**

Financial reporting manuals and instructions have been prepared to be followed across the organisation. The manuals and instructions outlining the content and schedule for the reporting aim to increase the overall controllability of the financial reporting process and ensure that financial statements fulfil the requirements set in the IFRS standards and other applicable requirements.

Risks related to financial reporting are managed through controls aiming to provide reasonable assurance that the information of interim reports and year-end reports are correct and that they have been prepared in accordance with legislation, applicable accounting standards and other requirements for listed companies.

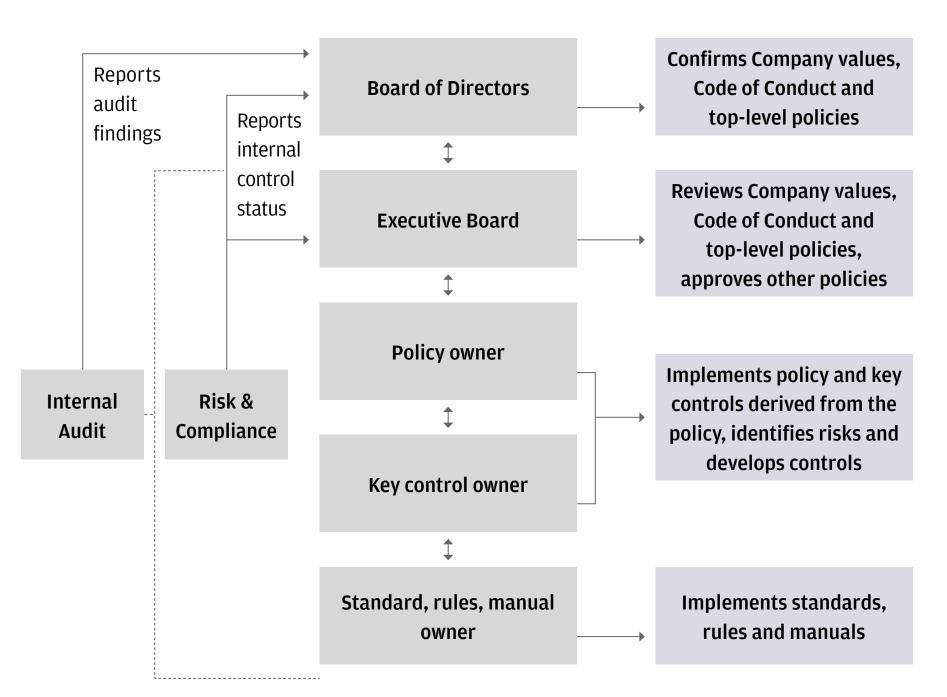
Control activities are applied in the business processes and, from the financial reporting perspective, they ensure that errors or deviations are prevented or detected and corrected. Controls in financial reporting pertain to the initiation, recognition, measurement, approval, accounting and reporting of financial transactions as well as disclosure of financial information. The general IT controls support the financial reporting controls in areas like access control and back-up management. Responsibilities are assigned in the Finance function ensuring that analyses of the business performance, including analyses on volumes, revenues, costs, working capital, and asset values are performed in accordance with the control requirements.

#### Information and communication

The Finance organisation is responsible for ensuring that the financial reporting manuals and instructions are up-to-date and that changes are communicated to the relevant units and functions. The process owners of the main finance processes are responsible for informing about upcoming changes in International Accounting Standards, new accounting principles and other changes in reporting requirements.

The key principles of Finnair's Disclosure Policy regarding disclosure to the stock markets are reliability, openness, consistency and fairness. Finnair publishes press and stock exchange releases without undue

#### THE KEY COMPONENTS AND ROLES IN CONTROL PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING





delay and makes them available to the markets and all principal stakeholders simultaneously.

#### Monitoring and improvement

The business units and shared functions regularly assess the maturity of their control activities. The control function -Risk & Compliance - facilitates the identification and evaluation of risks, assists business units and shared functions in defining the controls, and monitors the implementation of controls and risk management activities.

The design and effectiveness of the internal control and risk management systems are also assessed as part of the audits by Internal Audit. Audit results, corrective actions and their status, are regularly reported to the Executive Board and to the Audit Committee.

## **Internal Audit**

The Internal Audit is established by the Board of Directors, and its responsibilities are defined by the Audit Committee of the Board as part of their oversight responsibility.

Internal audit, the independent assurance function in the third Line of Defence, performed audits according to the annual plan approved by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors and performed also assignments requested by the management.

The mission of Internal Audit in Finnair is to provide independent, objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve the organisation's operations. Internal Audit helps the organisation to mitigate factors that might undermine its business objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes.

### **Related party transactions**

Related party transactions are regulated by the Finnish Companies Act and the Corporate Governance Code issued by the Securities Market Association, as well as in the IAS 24 Related parties. Finnair related parties include the subsidiaries, associated companies and joint ventures. Also, the members of the Board of Directors, the CEO and other members of the Executive Board, their close

family members and entities controlled directly or indirectly by them, as defined in IAS 24, are related to Finnair. Major shareholders with more than 20 per cent ownership of shares or of the total voting rights in the Company, are included in related parties. Finnair has defined procedures in place for identifying related party transactions.

In relation to any transaction with the Company the related parties must obtain permission in advance. The permission can be given by the Executive Board, or if the permission concerns the CEO or a member of the Board of Directors, by the Board of Directors. The person concerned may not participate in discussing the matter on the Executive Board or the Board of Directors or participate in preparations, decisions or implementation of the matter on behalf of the Company.

In addition, the members of the Executive Board and the Board of Directors are required to file an annual report of transactions conducted by them or their related parties with Finnair during the financial period, as well as of transactions antici-

pated for the next period. The permission and notification procedures only apply to negotiated transactions. Hence, they do not apply to service or product purchases available on normal commercial terms or to normal employee discounts.

Significant transactions between Finnair and its related parties are announced with a stock exchange release in accordance with the rules of Nasdaq Helsinki. Information on transactions with related parties is also provided in note 4.5 to the financial statements and they have been carried out at market prices.

Managers' transactions and key insider management procedures Inside information within the Company and transactions on Finnair financial instruments by persons discharging managerial responsibilities in the Company or their closely related persons are managed in accordance with the Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) and the insider guidelines of Nasdaq Helsinki and of the Company. The Company's insider rules also apply to employees in the so-called informative core of the Company. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT **2020** 

The Company maintains a list of persons discharging managerial responsibilities in Finnair (managers), including their closely related persons and entities, who must notify the Company and the Financial Supervisory Authority of their transactions on the Company's financial instruments within three business days of the execution of the transaction. The Company must disclose these transactions in a stock exchange release within two business days from having received the notification of the transaction. The Company's managers are the members of Finnair's Board of Directors and of the Executive Board.

The Company's managers and employees in the so-called informative core of the Company are bound by a closed window on trading, which begins 30 days before the release of interim or annual results and continues until the end of the release date. The Company may also impose other trading restrictions and grant exemptions in accordance with its insider rules.

The Company's managers and employees in the so-called informative core of the

Company must give an advance notice to the Company before the execution of a planned transaction. In addition, they can request an advance assessment of the legality of a planned transaction. The advance notice obligation and advance assessment opportunity are intended to reduce the risk of trading during a closed trading window or at a time when the Company has undisclosed inside information. Giving an advance notice does not affect the responsibility of the Company's managers and employees in its so-called informative core regarding the abuse of inside information.

The disclosure policy of the Company requires, in accordance with the Market Abuse Regulation (MAR), that the Company discloses any inside information it may have as soon as possible. However, the disclosure may be delayed if the requirements specified in MAR are met. The identification of inside information and decisions regarding the disclosure or delay of disclosure are made by the Company's Disclosure Committee, which is comprised of the members of the Executive Board. The

Disclosure Committee assesses the Company's information typically twice a month and otherwise whenever necessary. If the Company delays the disclosure of inside information, it establishes a project-specific insider list and enters the persons with access to the relevant information on the insider list.

The person responsible for insider issues within the Company is the General Counsel. Finnair's insider rules are available at the Company's <u>website</u>.

# **Contact information**

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