# press release



Paris, September 21, 2020 - 7.30 pm CET

## SUEZ IN EXCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE SALE OF ITS RECYCLING & RECOVERY OPERATIONS IN SWEDEN

SUEZ announced today it has entered into an exclusivity agreement with PreZero, the environmental division of Schwarz Group, regarding the sale of SUEZ's Recycling & Recovery operations in Sweden for SEK 3,700m (Enterprise Value)<sup>1</sup> i.e. c. EUR 357m<sup>1</sup>. The agreement enables a solid future for the business and its employees within PreZero, a fast-growing division of the largest European retailer and a pioneer in recyclable waste management.

This will be the second transaction between SUEZ and PreZero announced in a week: the two parties had recently entered into exclusive negotiations for the sale of SUEZ's Recycling & Recovery assets in four continental Europe countries to PreZero and had announced entering into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to explore possibilities to develop strategic partnerships promoting the development of circular economy.

SUEZ benefits from a leading position in Sweden, with a presence throughout the Recycling and Recovery value chain, from collection for Municipalities and Industrial & Commercial clients, to sorting and treatment. The business to be transferred to PreZero operates a network of c. 50 sites in the country and employs close to 1,100 people. It generated c. SEK 2,661m in sales (i.e. c. EUR 250m) and c. SEK 358m<sup>1</sup> (i.e. c. EUR 34m<sup>1</sup>) in EBITDA in 2019.

This new announcement demonstrates once again SUEZ's commitment to successfully deliver on its asset rotation plan deployed in the scope of SUEZ 2030 strategy. The contemplated transaction closes the first wave of disposals ahead of schedule, for an aggregated amount of c.€2.3bn<sup>2</sup> to date.

Commenting on the transaction, **Bertrand Camus, CEO of SUEZ**, said: "This announcement is another important step in the delivery of our asset rotation plan. I am very pleased that our Recycling & Recovery Swedish activities and teams will join PreZero with whom SUEZ will, as announced last week, develop strategic partnerships together to accelerate the development of circular economy."

The transaction is expected to be completed by end 2020, subject to regulatory approval and customary closing conditions.

J.P. Morgan and Rothschild & Co acted as financial advisors to SUEZ.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excl. IFRS 16 impacts: SEK 300m (c. EUR 28m) on Enterprise Value (debt) and SEK 73m (c. EUR 7m) on EBITDA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Incl. IFRS 16

#### CONTACTS

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#### About SUEZ:

Since the end of the 19th century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment's natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing municipalities' and industries' resource management through "smart" cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group delivers sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m3 of drinking water. SUEZ is also a contributor to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and a provider of new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, with a positive impact on our environment, health and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of  $\epsilon$ 18.0 billion in 2019.

Find out more about the SUEZ Group on the <u>website</u> & on social media