

## A la une



### *Hard market expected through 2024, as cat losses to exceed \$100bn: Swiss Re*

21/11/2023

Global reinsurance giant Swiss Re has said that it forecasts insurance industry losses from natural catastrophe events will exceed US \$100 billion again in 2023, leading it to also forecast that non-life hard market conditions will be sustained through 2024, at least.

Swiss Re, in the latest sigma report from its Institute, is forecasting that 2023 will be the fourth consecutive year that insured catastrophe losses surpass \$100 billion and the sixth year since 2017 for them to do so, on an inflation adjusted basis.

This comes at a time when property insurance markets are facing increasing claims quantum as well, driven by higher replacement costs today than two years ago, the reinsurance firm said.

Going on to explain that, "While cost pressure from construction materials has generally eased, higher wages and higher financing costs as a result of tighter monetary policy keep construction costs elevated." Adding that, "The global loss burden from natural catastrophes



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is also continuing to grow, and we estimate the long-term growth rate at 5%-7% in inflation-adjusted terms since 1992." Exposure value growth, driven by ongoing construction in high-hazard areas, and rising replacement costs, are the most significant factors in driving catastrophe insured losses higher, Swiss Re explained.

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## Marathon Comar 2023 J-12 : pour une Tunisie plus verte

21/11/2023

«A Courons pour une Tunisie verte» : tel est le slogan du Marathon Comar dont la 36e édition se tiendra le 3 décembre 2023 à Tunis avec la participation de plus de 7000 coureurs professionnels et amateurs. C'est un slogan mobilisateur et fédérateur par ces temps de changement climatique où la préservation de l'environnement est devenue d'une extrême urgence.

Pour les Assurances Comar, qui organisent cet événement sportif depuis 38 ans, cette vocation écologique ne date pas d'hier. Elle s'inscrit dans son engagement citoyen et sociétal. Et constitue l'un des axes de sa politique de responsabilité sociale de l'entreprise (RSE).

Dans la présentation du Marathon Comar, les organisateurs précisent à juste titre, parmi les quatre principaux objectifs de cette course populaire, la volonté de «pérenniser l'action environnementale et s'engager dans la protection de la planète par, notamment, le reboisement des forêts». Et ce ne sont pas là simplement des mots pour se donner bonne conscience, mais des engagements fermes et, surtout, des actions menées régulièrement et avec toute la détermination requise.

Cette «dimension green» du Marathon Comar est illustrée, d'abord, par le partenariat noué depuis 2021 avec Tounes Clean Up. Cette ONG tunisienne présidée par Houssein Hamdi est très engagée dans la préservation de la nature et la protection de l'environnement. Depuis 2021, elle contribue, grâce aux fonds mobilisés par le Marathon Comar, au reboisement des forêts tunisiennes dont les superficies, déjà assez réduites, subissent les impacts négatifs des

incendies, du défrichage, du surpâturage et du dépérissement des arbres provoqués par le changement climatique. La formule adoptée à cet effet est simple : pour chaque dinar collecté par les Assurances Comar, sur les frais d'inscription des candidats et l'achat des dossards, un arbre est planté par les membres de l'ONG.

«Grâce à la participation à cette cause environnementale, nous avons réussi en 2021 à collecter des fonds pour planter 20 623 arbres dans nos forêts endommagées par les incendies», expliquent les organisateurs.

Ainsi, l'année dernière, on a planté dans le cadre de la même action quelque 33 794 arbres et on peut parier que lors de la 36e édition ce chiffre flirtera avec (ou dépassera) 40 000 arbres. L'objectif final est d'arriver, à terme, à organiser un marathon avec zéro empreinte carbone.

L'autre aspect de cet engagement écologique et citoyen concerne le ramassage des ordures que ne manque pas de produire les participants au marathon, coureurs et spectateurs, tout au long du parcours. Et là aussi, l'esprit de partage et de solidarité joue pour que toute bouteille d'eau ou tout mouchoir papier jetés sur le bord du chemin soit ramassé pour qu'après la course, le parcours soit aussi net qu'il l'a été avant. Ce qui, on l'imagine, sera apprécié par les riverains et par la Municipalité de Tunis, qui est l'un des partenaires majeurs du Marathon Comar. moyen terme.

## La CTAMA entre au capital de la société Herbiotech Aroma

**20/11/2023**

Une Assemblée générale extraordinaire en date du 15 septembre 2023 a décidé d'augmenter le capital de la société Herbiotech Aroma pour le porter de 4.038.290 à 4.344.410 dinars et ce, par l'émission de 30.612 actions nominatives nouvelles de 10 dinars chacune.

Ladite Assemblée a également décidé la suppression du droit préférentiel de souscription réservé aux actionnaires au profit de la société Assurances CTAMA.

Fondée en 2011 par Dr Leith Tlemçani, Herbiotech Aroma est une société spécialisée dans la transformation des plantes pour la préparation et le développement d'extraits et ingrédients.

En 2020, la société ayant comme actionnaire principal le fonds AZIMUTS géré par CAPSA CAPITAL PARTNERS, avait fait entrer deux investisseurs japonais dans son capital, à savoir SMBC Agri-fund, un fonds japonais spécialisé dans l'agribusiness, et Exploration Lab for Food Function "ELFF", opérateur spécialisé dans la production et vente de semences et plantes, la planification et conception de machines et équipements liés aux produits agricoles.

## Forum Convergences Tunisie 3Zéro 2023

**21/11/2023**

La construction d'une économie plus solidaire et respectueuse de l'environnement est le thème au centre du Forum Convergences Tunisie 3Zéro 2023, qui se tiendra le 27 novembre 2023 à la Cité de la Culture à Tunis.

Ce sera une occasion pour réfléchir et agir pour une Tunisie zéro exclusion, zéro carbone et zéro pauvreté, avec des conférences, des présentations d'études et le Village des Solutions, avec les stands des participants.

Les forums Convergences offrent des espaces d'apprentissage, de rencontre et de travail de haut niveau aux acteurs du changement, dans le but d'offrir à chacun, citoyens comme organisations, les moyens et les ressources pour penser autrement et agir pour concilier justice sociale et transition écologique, écrivent les organisateurs.

Lancée en 2008, Convergences est une plateforme de réflexion, de mobilisation et de plaidoyer, promouvant les Objectifs de développement durable (ODD) et la lutte contre la pauvreté, l'exclusion et le changement climatique dans le monde. Constituée de plus de 300 organisations partenaires de tous secteurs, l'association œuvre pour encourager la réflexion et l'action, diffuser les bonnes pratiques et encourager la co-construction de partenariats innovants à fort impact social.

Le Forum Convergences intervient dans tous les domaines pouvant déclencher un effet déterminant en faveur de ses objectifs : développement durable, solidarité internationale pour le développement, finance solidaire et inclusive, responsabilité sociale des entreprises (RSE), entrepreneuriat social, économie sociale et solidaire et nouvelles technologies pour le développement.

## Signature d'un protocole d'accord avec l'OIT portant sur la coopération en matière d'Éducation Financière

**22/11/2023**

La Banque Centrale de Tunisie (BCT) par l'intermédiaire de l'Observatoire de l'Inclusion Financière (OIF) et l'Organisation internationale du Travail (OIT) ont signé un protocole d'accord visant à renforcer leur partenariat dans le cadre du programme d'Éducation Financière en Tunisie. Ce protocole représente une étape significative dans le développement d'initiatives conjointes exprimant ainsi la volonté politique des deux institutions à promouvoir l'inclusion financière à travers le renforcement de l'éducation financière en Tunisie. Le programme d'éducation financière de l'OIT, déjà adapté au contexte tunisien et à divers publics cibles, sera déployé en collaboration avec l'Observatoire de l'Inclusion Financière.

Cette convention de partenariat s'étend à plusieurs domaines d'intervention, ciblant divers bénéficiaires tels que les jeunes, les femmes rurales, les tunisiens résidents à l'étranger et leur familles (TRES), les entrepreneurs, principalement les TPE, micro-entrepreneurs et les acteurs de l'économie sociale et solidaire.

### **Parmi les principaux points abordés dans le protocole :**

- Mise en œuvre de la Stratégie Nationale en Éducation Financière : l'OIT soutiendra la réactualisation des outils pédagogiques, l'identification des multiplicateurs de l'éducation financière, et la formation et certification des formateurs.

- Évaluation et Recherche : Des activités seront menées pour mesurer les effets

de la stratégie sur les populations cibles.

- Suivi et Évaluation : L'Observatoire utilisera la base de données de l'Éducation Financière afin de récolter des données statistiques relatives aux bénéficiaires formés.
- Comité de Pilotage et de Suivi : Un comité sera créé pour superviser la mise en œuvre du protocole, composé de représentants de l'OIT, du programme Finance Solidaire de l'OIT, des projets de coopération au développement, et du directeur exécutif de l'Observatoire.

Monsieur Marouane ELBASSI Gouverneur de la Banque Centrale de Tunisie Président du Conseil de l'OIF a insisté sur l'importance de ce partenariat pour la promotion de l'éducation financière en Tunisie pour être un levier boostant l'inclusion financière.

Mme Rania BIKHAZI, Directrice du Bureau de l'OIT pour l'Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA), a souligné l'importance de cette collaboration pour renforcer l'éducation financière et améliorer l'inclusion financière dans le pays.

Ce protocole, démontre l'engagement de l'OIF et de l'OIT à collaborer étroitement pour une meilleure accessibilité de l'éducation financière à tous les citoyens tunisiens.





## **Maroc :Séisme d'Al Haouz et assurances: Ouverture jusqu'au 16 janvier d'un registre de recensement des victimes**

**21/11/2023**

Un registre de recensement des victimes du séisme d'Al Haouz sera ouvert jusqu'au 16 janvier 2024, a annoncé, mardi, le ministère de l'Intérieur.

L'ouverture de ce registre s'inscrit dans le cadre de la loi n°110.14 instituant un régime de couverture contre les conséquences d'évènements catastrophiques et intervient suite à l'arrêté du chef de gouvernement du 13 octobre 2023, qui a été publié au Bulletin Officiel le 19 octobre 2023 et en vertu duquel le séisme d'Al Haouz a été déclaré événement catastrophique.

Rappelant que l'arrêté établit la liste des collectivités territoriales sinistrées, le ministère a noté que l'opération d'enregistrement se poursuivra jusqu'au 16 janvier 2024 soit directement dans les bureaux dédiés à cette fin au niveau des caïdats et annexes administratives concernés ou via le portail électronique [www.recensementcatastrophes.ma](http://www.recensementcatastrophes.ma), par la victime elle-même ou par un des ayants droits ou par toute personne physique ou morale ayant des liens avec la victime.

Suite à l'enregistrement, le déclarant recevra un récépissé daté et cacheté portant un numéro de référence et actant cette opération, a souligné le ministère, relevant que dans le cas où l'enregistrement est effectué via le Portail, le récépissé sera téléchargé de manière électronique. Sur le volet assurantiel, les compagnies ont également commencé leur recensement avec quelques 8.000 dossiers déjà reçus selon une déclaration de la Fédération des assurances dans la presse.



## **L'ACAPS organise la 8ème session de formation au profit des intermédiaires d'assurance à Oujda**

**17/11/2023**

L'Autorité de Contrôle des Assurances et de la Prévoyance Sociale (ACAPS) a organisé, le jeudi 16 novembre à Oujda, la huitième session de formation au profit d'une trentaine d'intermédiaires d'assurance.

S'inscrivant dans le cadre de la deuxième édition de la tournée de formation et de sensibilisation destinée aux intermédiaires d'assurance, cette rencontre a été axée sur la thématique « Opportunités et enjeux du métier d'intermédiaire d'assurance ».

Elle a permis de traiter des sujets d'actualité tels que l'assurance Takaful, la vente en ligne des produits d'assurance, l'assurance inclusive ainsi que la lutte anti-corruption dans le secteur des



## **Dixième édition du Rendez-Vous de Casablanca de l'Assurance**

**15/11/2023**

Organisée par la Fédération Marocaine de l'assurance (FMA), la dixième édition du Rendez-Vous de Casablanca de l'Assurance se tiendra les 17 et 18 avril 2024 à l'hôtel Hyatt Regency Casablanca.

Le thème de cette édition est : « Quelle assurance dans un monde d'incertitudes ? ».

**Financial Afrik****Insurance Company Compensates 300 Farmers****17/11/2023****Gabon : Le marché des assurances a généré un chiffre d'affaires de plus de 100 milliards de FCFA en 2022****22/11/2023**

Au Gabon, le marché des assurances a généré un chiffre d'affaires de 114,50 milliards de FCFA en 2022. Ce qui correspond à une hausse de 11,2% par rapport à l'année 2021. L'information est révélée par le.

Qui indique que cette performance est le résultat de la bonne tenue de la branche Vie qui couvre les opérations d'épargne et de prévoyance.

En effet, en 2022, le chiffre d'affaires de cette branche a progressé de 20,1% pour se hisser à 28,48 milliards de FCFA. Des résultats que le ministère gabonais de l'Économie et des Participations attribue aux bonnes performances des produits traditionnels de deux autres branches.

D'abord la branche « Epargne-Retraite » qui a généré un chiffre d'affaires en progression de 13,8% par rapport à 2021 et ensuite, la branche « Décès » qui connaît une hausse de 13,8% en glissement annuel.

Pour ce qui est des performances des sociétés d'assurances, le rapport du ministère gabonais de l'Économie et des Participations révèle que les Compagnies ASSINCO, SANLAM IARD, OGAR IARD et AXA concentrent l'essentiel des primes. Avec un total de parts de marché estimé à 64% en 2022.

About 300 farmers from Mosiro Ward in Narok East have every reason to smile after an insurance company paid them Sh.4.7 million as compensation for the poor harvest they incurred in the last season.

Apollo Insurance Company compensated each farmer an average of Sh15, 000 as 90 per cent of their crop had gone to waste after the long dry season experienced early this year.

The insurance associate, Benalyn Chebet, said the compensation is in the form of farm inputs that include seeds, fertiliser, and farm chemicals that will enable the farmers to plant their farms during this rainy season. "We work with small-scale farmers to help them build resilience. In the last season, the farmers incurred huge losses; this is why, as an insurance company, we have come in to help them recover," he said.

Chebet said the insurance company not only helps farmers make maximum profits but also protects them against making losses.

He commended the farmers for their patience, asking them to plough larger portions of land to increase food production in the area.

"We will continue working with the farmers in this area to offer any kind of help that they require. I ask all the farmers to take advantage of the ongoing rains to plant their farms," he said. Charity Njeri, a consultant at Apollo Insurance, said the company has fulfilled its pledge to the community by asking more farmers to register with the insurance company to avoid incurring total loss in case of a crop failure.

Some of the beneficiaries thanked Apollo Insurance for keeping their promise and asked them to continue supporting them to achieve their dreams.

Ms. Lilian Dapash, who farms maize and beans on her nine acres of land, could not hide her joy after receiving support from the insurance company. She said her crop had gone to waste after a prolonged dry season early this year.

## Despite Poor Penetration, 13 Insurance Companies Declare N57.1bn PBT

21/11/2023

Amid weak insurance penetration in Nigeria and challenging business environment, a total of 13 leading insurance companies in the country declared N57.1billion profit before tax in nine months ended September 30, 2023.

This represents a 165 per cent increase over N21.51billion reported in nine months ended September 2022.

The 13 insurance companies are: Cornerstone Insurance Plc, AllCO Insurance Plc, Consolidated Hallmark Insurance Plc, Lasaco Assurance Plc, Linkage Assurance Plc and Sovereign Trust Insurance Plc

Others include: Veritas Kapital Assurance Plc, Coronation Insurance Plc, AXA Mansard Insurance Plc, Mutual Benefits Assurance Plc, Sunu Assurances Nigeria Plc, NEM Insurance and Regency Assurance Plc.

AXA Mansard Insurance, an insurance company that provides life and non-life insurance products and services to individuals and institutions across Nigeria, followed by Cornerstone Insurance and AllCO Insurance generated the highest profit before tax in the period under review.

Meanwhile, apart from AXA Mansard Insurance that announced interim dividend declare an interim dividend of 6 kobo per N2 ordinary share, payable to shareholders on December 15, 2023, other listed insurance companies on the Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) have failed to reward shareholders with interim dividend, unlike their counterparts in the banking sector.

Out of the N57.1 billion PBT reported by these 13 insurance companies in nine months of 2023, AXA Mansard Insurance contributed 26.44 per cent, while Cornerstone Insurance and AllCO Insurance contributed 20 per cent and 11.8 per cent respectively.

AXA Mansard Insurance in nine months ended September 30, 2023 generated N15.1billion profit

before tax, an increase of 471 per cent from N2.65billion reported in nine months of 2022.

AXA Mansard recorded a 44 per cent growth in insurance services to N9.08billion in nine months of 2023 from N6.3billion in nine months of 2022, primarily driven by the growth in insurance revenue. The surge in insurance revenue of AXA Mansard Insurance effectively helped offset the rising costs associated with insurance service expenses; insurance claims, among others.

In the period under review, Cornerstone Insurance declared N11.43billion profit before tax from N621.1million reported in corresponding period, while AllCO Insurance posted N6.75billion PBT in nine months of 2023, representing an increase of per cent from N2.39billion reported in nine months of 2022.

THISDAY investigation revealed the 13 insurance companies generated N49.88billion profit after tax in nine months of 2023, an increase of 142 per cent from N20.58billion reported in the corresponding period of 2022.

Also, AXA Mansard Insurance led others with about N12.56billion profit after tax in nine months of 2023 from N1.5billion in nine months of 2022, followed by Cornerstone Insurance that declared N10.86billion profit before tax in nine months of 2023 from N622.62million reported in nine months of 2022.

The impressive performance of these companies has impacted on the NGX Insurance Index, making it one of the best-performing indices on the bourse.

As of November 17, the NGX Insurance Index appreciated by 68.44per cent Year-till-Date (YtD) growth of 293.70 basis points.

The National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) in a report disclosed that the insurance sector in the second quarter (Q2) 2023 remained profitable, recording an overall industry net loss ratio average of about 52.9 per cent, this is as the Non-Life segment's loss ratio stood at 50.5per cent while Life business recorded a net loss ratio of 55.5per cent during the same period.



## Egypt: Misr Insurance to be new manager of FAIR Non-life Reinsurance Pool

**23/11/2023**

Misr Insurance Company, Egypt's biggest general insurer, will assume the management of a non-life reinsurance pool affiliated to the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurance and Reinsurance (FAIR). Misr Insurance Company, Egypt's biggest general insurer, will assume the management of a non-life reinsurance pool affiliated with the Federation of Afro-Asian Insurance and Reinsurance (FAIR). The changeover in the management of the FAIR on-Life Reinsurance Pool will take place in January 2024 when the current pool manager Milli Re hands over to Misr Insurance, reported Amwal Alghad.

FAIR has three other reinsurance arms formed by members. They are the Aviation Pool, the Natural Catastrophe Risk Pool and the FAIR Oil & Energy Insurance Syndicate. Each is also managed by a specialised international company.

Trust Re manages the oil and energy syndicate. The Indian reinsurer, GIC Re, manages the Nat CAT Risk Pool while the Central Reinsurance Company of Morocco oversees the Aviation Pool

## Central Bank of Bahrain issues new ESG reporting framework

**20/11/2023**

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has issued new Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting framework in line with the apex lender's commitment to transparency, strong corporate governance, and pursuit of social and climate-related objectives.

The module is directed at all listed companies, banks, financing companies, insurance firms, and investment firms. It provides them with guidelines on the reporting requirements for ESG factors.

The central bank recognises that the ESG landscape is ever-evolving, and this module represents a transformative step towards a more sustainable financial market. The issuance of this module underscores the CBB's dedication to both national and international social and climate-related objectives.

Bahrain-listed companies, banks, financing companies, insurance firms and investment firms will start the reporting of these requirements in 2024.

## BUSINESS INSURANCE

### Insurers exclude war risk in marine policies involving Yemen

**21/11/2023**

Several insurers are excluding war risk in marine insurance policies involving Yemen, after the Houthis who control parts of the country announced on 31 October that they would join the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.

In particular, tension has escalated after the Houthis threatened to target Israeli shipping. They followed up on their threats with the seizure of a cargo ship on 19 November. The vessel, Galaxy Leader, is said to be partly Israeli-owned

Mr Sherif Mohsen, general manager in charge of marine insurance at the general insurer Al-Mohandes Insurance, told Al Mal News that the Houthis waging war against Israel and their threat to strike Israeli-related ships in the Red Sea region affects cargo insurance for goods passing through Yemeni ports



## Hard market expected through 2024, as cat losses to exceed \$100bn: Swiss Re

**21/11/2023**

Global reinsurance giant Swiss Re has said that it forecasts insurance industry losses from natural catastrophe events will exceed US \$100 billion again in 2023, leading it to also forecast that non-life hard market conditions will be sustained through 2024, at least.

Swiss Re, in the latest sigma report from its Institute, is forecasting that 2023 will be the fourth consecutive year that insured catastrophe losses surpass \$100 billion and the sixth year since 2017 for them to do so, on an inflation adjusted basis. This comes at a time when property insurance markets are facing increasing claims quantum as well, driven by higher replacement costs today than two years ago, the reinsurance firm said.

Going on to explain that, "While cost pressure from construction materials has generally eased, higher wages and higher financing costs as a result of tighter monetary policy keep construction costs elevated."

Adding that, "The global loss burden from natural catastrophes is also continuing to grow, and we estimate the long-term growth rate at 5%–7% in inflation-adjusted terms since 1992." Exposure value growth, driven by ongoing construction in high-hazard areas, and rising replacement costs, are the most significant factors in driving catastrophe insured losses higher, Swiss Re explained.

The company further stated, "Based on our preliminary estimates, insured losses totalled at least USD 80 billion in the first nine months of 2023. This is above the 10-year average of USD 74 billion (inflation adjusted, nine-month period) and without any major peak peril loss event. Losses so far have been driven by severe convective storms in the US, while devastating earthquakes have added to the toll. At USD 6 billion in estimated insured claims, the February 2023 earthquake in Turkey and Syria is the costliest insured loss event this year so

far.

"Year to date losses are characterised by a high number of low single-digit billion-dollar events, some of which represent loss severity records in their countries." As we'd previously reported, broker Gallagher Re has already estimate that insured catastrophe losses had exceeded \$100 billion by the start of November.

With the non-life insurance sector facing challenging claims dynamics, including rising frequency and severity, while claims growth in liability lines is challenging insurability as well, the addition of another heavy catastrophe loss year is set to further stress matters. Swiss Re said that, "These claims trends imply further hard market conditions for commercial and personal lines in 2024 at least."

Further market hardening is expected in the medium term, as insurers and reinsurers try to keep pace with exposure and claims growth. Hard market conditions, alongside improved investment returns, are improving insurer profitability, Swiss Re notes.

But still, the reinsurance firm warns that meeting cost-of-capital will remain challenged.

Jérôme Jean Haegeli, Swiss Re's Group Chief Economist, said, "Fading economic tailwinds and geopolitical uncertainties reinforce the primary insurance industry's essential role in risk transfer. While the sector will continue to strengthen its profitability, mainly driven by improved risk-adjusted pricing as well as higher investment returns, it is not yet expected to earn its cost of capital in 2024 or 2025 in most markets as economic inflation will continue to have a negative impact on claims costs."

At the same time, Swiss Re says that interest rates are the most important component of industry returns at this time, suggesting the hardening of market pricing and improvements in terms and conditions, while beneficial, are not driving profitability on their own. All of which suggests hard market pricing needs to be sustained for a time at least, which could provide the impetus needed to sustain a higher baseline level in insurance and reinsurance rates, once the cycle starts to soften again as it inevitably will in time.

## Global marine premiums up 8% to \$35.8bn in 2022: Iumi

08/11/2023

The International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) has unveiled its annual analysis of the global marine insurance market in the 2023 IUMI Stats Report.

The report offers insights into the state of the marine insurance sector within the broader context of the global economy, trade, and shipping.

Global marine insurance premiums in 2022 reached USD35.8 billion, marking an impressive 8.3% increase from the previous year.

Factors such as the post-pandemic recovery in trade, augmented asset values, reduced market capacity, and premium adjustments are cited as contributing to this growth.

While European markets saw continued expansion, certain Asian markets experienced a slowdown due to various economic factors.

Ocean hull premiums surged to USD8.4 billion, a 5.7% rise from the preceding year. Increased activity, a higher number of vessels, escalating values, and diminished market capacity were identified as driving forces. The low number of claims maintained positive loss ratios across nearly all regions.

Cargo insurance premiums soared to USD20.5 billion, reflecting an 8.3% increase compared to the previous year. This uptick is attributed to the resurgence of global trade post-pandemic. Loss ratios returned to more typical levels, starting at their lowest point since 2015 for 2022.

The offshore energy sector continued its three-year streak of premium base growth, reporting USD4.1 billion for 2022, a substantial

7.3% surge.

This growth can be primarily attributed to the rise in oil prices, resulting in increased offshore activity and higher average day rates. The sector maintained relatively low losses, leading to positive recent years' loss ratios.

Additionally, the report includes an update on IUMI's Major Claims Database, with cargo claims being published for the fourth consecutive year. These claims are analysed based on 13 data fields, providing insights into loss severity, frequency, location, and cause.

Commenting on this year's report, IUMI Secretary General, Lars Lange, stated, "Our annual Stats Report has become a much-anticipated descriptor and analysis of the current health of the marine insurance market. This year, it is gratifying to note that all business lines have performed relatively strongly showing an increase in the global premium base and a better performance in terms of loss ratios. This is largely off the back of a post-pandemic rebound in global trade but can also be attributed to more disciplined and effective underwriting. Insurers are continuing to operate in a relatively low claims environment, which is good news for all concerned, but we must be watchful for a return to more usual loss levels now that shipping and offshore activity has normalised following Covid."

## Generative AI expected to impact many different insurance lines: Aon

22/11/2023

The insurance market's overall understanding of generative AI-related risk is still within its early stages, but this developing form of the technology is expected to impact many different lines within the sector, such as Technology Errors and Omissions / Cyber, Professional Liability, Media Liability, Employment Practices Liability, and more, reports Aon.

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that contains the ability to create material such as images, music or text. This form of AI is already proving to be quite a disruptor across the industry, and its adoption is said to be growing at an "explosive rate."

In its Global Insurance Market Insights report for the third quarter of 2023, broker Aon highlights how insurance policies can potentially address AI risk through affirmative coverage, specific exclusions, or by just "remaining silent", which ultimately creates ambiguity.

According to Aon, insurers are defining their strategies around this rapidly changing risk landscape through a combination of different factors.

One of these involves insurers building out their underwriting requirements which are already very robust.

While underwriters are just beginning to ask questions, the process has the potential to become quite troublesome and prolonged with the many potential applications that could wind up being created and eventually deployed across the sector.

At the same time, insurers are also developing creative AI products and solutions that they are then adopting and embedding within their own platforms.

Another key factor that is being seen across the industry, is that insurers are expanding their technology-based talent competencies. This

is either being done organically, or through partnerships and/or acquisitions, in order to support underwriting and pricing through technical assessments and monitoring.

Moving forward, while it is clear that the productivity gains of generative AI are easily recognizable, Aon heavily suggests that companies should ensure that they are taking care and conducting regular risk assessments as they embrace this new way of working.

A key figure to take note of is that Bloomberg Research forecasts that the generative AI market will grow to \$1.3 trillion over the next decade, up from \$40 billion in 2022.

Aon also notes that as firms quickly look to share that growth, it would be wise for them to also remain focused on the potential risks and issues that will arise along the journey too.