

INDEPENDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

AHMET AKÇA (Independent Member Candidate)

Ahmet Akça studied mathematics at Middle East Technical University and sociology at İstanbul University and graduated from the Bursa Economics and Commercial Sciences Academy's Department of Economics in 1980.

From 1981 to 1988, he served as a Foreign Trade Manager in the glass and food industries. In 1988, he became the CEO of an international trading company, a position he held until 1992. He later started his own business, which he still runs. He is the founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the logistics company, Akça Lojistik Hizmetleri ve Ticaret A.Ş. He was a member of the Committee of Trustees in April 2010 at the time of the establishment of Bezmialem Foundation University and has been serving as the Chairman of the Committee of Trustees since November 2011. In March 2013, he was appointed as a Board Member at Turkcell, by the Capital Markets Board, and has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors at Turkcell between August 2013 – March 2020. He is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tedarik Lojistik company since 2018 and he is carrying out his duty as Independent Board Member of BİM since May 2018.

PAUL MİCHEAL FOLEY (Independent Member Candidate)

Born in London, UK in 1958, Paul Foley worked in his teens in the fruit and vegetable wholesale and retail business. He continued to improve himself develop within the industry and started his career at Iceland Frozen Foods in 1974. Over the years he kept on taking more challenges and the rose within company ranks to become Sales Director at the company.

In 1989 Paul Foley joined Aldi a new company entering the UK market and became its first Director of the Midlands Region. The highlight of his career at Aldi came in 1999 when he became Group Managing Director UK and 5 years later CEO for UK & Ireland. In this role he led the business to its current position as number 1 discount retailer in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. He retired from this position in at the end of 2012 after a career of 23 years with Aldi Süd.

In 2012 he founded his own company Foley Retail Consulting GmbH located in Vienna/Austria in which he continues to support large retail businesses, private equity investors and investment banks across the globe.

During the same time, his deep insight and knowledge about retail granted him the opportunity to hold positions as a Non-Executive Director at EKO Holdings now part of DINO group Poland, ICELAND Foods (England), as an Independent Board Member and Independent Advisor to the Board at INVERTO AG (now part of Boston Consulting group-Germany), and AHT Cooling Systems GmbH in Austria and PJSC Magnit in Russia.

Paul is currently serving as a Board Member at BelWillesden/GIPPO Hypermarkets in Belarus and VOLI Trade in Montenegro, Poslovni Sistem Mercator (Slovenia), Konzum Plus (Croatia) and Fortenova Group (Croatia) formally Agrokor in the Balkans. He is also carrying out his duty as Independent Board Member of BİM since May 2019. He is married and has five children.