

## PRESS NOTE

### **PIETRO SALINI AT "QUARTA REPUBBLICA": WE ARE READY TO BUILD THE STRAIT OF MESSINA BRIDGE, A FUNDAMENTAL WORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH OF ITALY**

Milan, March 19, 2024 – “Webuild makes itself available to serve Italy, and we are ready to restart working immediately on the Strait of Messina Bridge. Timings are not up to us, but instead rely on the decisional and authorization processes that the project is currently being subjected to. The scientific committee unanimously approved the project, and further assessments will be carried out during the executive phase”. This is what Webuild CEO Pietro Salini said yesterday at *Quarta Repubblica*, during his interview yesterday evening on the Italian TV channel Rete 4.

Salini then wished to remember that “the *Stretto di Messina* company, which approved the update made by us to the final project, said works should begin during Summer 2024, when CIPESS closes the authorization process, while the bridge on the other hand should be opened to road and rail traffic in 2032”.

“The Strait of Messina Bridge will allow crossing 3 kilometres of sea separating mainland Italy from Sicily, an island with 5 million inhabitants, as many as Denmark that is connected to Germany with three bridges” continued Salini. “In Italy all large infrastructures brought about a lot of controversies, before and after their construction. In fact, that is what happened when the *Autostrada del Sole* was built or even the Rome-Milan High-Speed railway line, both today standing as Italy's backbone. And this is what will also be reserved for the Bridge. We are optimistic though and do really think that common sense and the South of Italy's desire to grow in the end will prevail.

Pietro Salini went on then to underline the Group's resilience and capacity to meet and manage the challenges of this period, transforming potential impacts into growth opportunities. “Webuild is made of 87,000 people, with a turnover of over €10 billion, which in the last decade allowed it to significantly grow more than 4 times its original size. We continued in our vision to build large complex infrastructure on a global scale, becoming bigger in size, and a partner to our clients and the institutions, to make our territories grow, while attracting the skills of young men and women, also working with a premium supply chain”.

In 2023, the Group's order backlog reached its record peak with €64 billion, exceeding the expected target of the Plan as of 2025. Besides fully covering the turnover and the EBITDA target of the Business Plan 2023-2025, the backlog allows us to have visibility over 6 years with regard to the Group's revenues, clearly setting the Group's growth path.

“Webuild demonstrated a great capacity to adapt and to be flexible when managing price rises and the reduction of the workmanship available on the market, both things being more complex to deal with in this period. We gradually moved towards low-risk markets like Australia, Europe, the United States, and the Middle East. We revised the way we participate in tenders, selecting better projects, and we won 90% of our new orders during the past two years thanks to the quality of our offer and not just for our prices”.

\*\*\*\*

*Webuild is a global leader in the design and construction of large, complex projects in the sectors of sustainable mobility, hydropower, water management and production, and green buildings. For many years, the recognized leader in the water sector, also ranking among the Top 10 international players in Australia, Europe and the US, the Group has consolidated experience in 50 countries. In almost 120 years of applied engineering on more than 3,200 projects, the Webuild Group has built 14,140 kilometres of rail and metro lines, 82,533 kilometres of roads and highways, 1,020 kilometres of bridges and viaducts, 3,408 kilometres of tunnels, and 313 dams and hydropower plants. Projects include the Bridge over the Danube River in Braila in Romania, and the Genoa Long Beach International Gateway in California; the expansion of the Panama Canal and the Third Bosphorus Bridge in Turkey; the Kingdom Centre skyscraper in Riyadh in*



*Saudi Arabia, and metro lines in Copenhagen, Paris, Rome, Milan, Doha and Riyadh. Projects under construction include the New Genoa Breakwater, the Brenner Base Tunnel, Line 4 of Milan's metro, and Line C of Rome's metro, the Genoa-Milan high-capacity railway line, the Snowy 2.0 hydroelectric project in Australia, and the Trojena project for NEOM in Saudi Arabia. As of December 31, 2023, the Webuild Group with 87,000 people, achieved €10 billion in total revenues, and a total backlog of €64 billion, with over 90% of its construction backlog related to projects linked to the advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Webuild, subject to the direction and coordination of Salini Costruttori S.p.A., is headquartered in Italy and is listed on the Milan stock exchange (WBD; WBD.MI; WBD:IM). Since 2021, it is member of the MIB ESG, the index of Italian companies with the best ESG practices.*

[More information at www.webuildgroup.com](http://www.webuildgroup.com)



**Contacts:**

**Media Relations**

**Francesca Romana Chiarano**

**Tel. +39 338 247 4827**

**email: [f.chiarano@webuildgroup.com](mailto:f.chiarano@webuildgroup.com)**