# **UNITED STATES**

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

### **CURRENT REPORT**

## PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE

### **SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 13, 2013 (May 12, 2013)

# TRANSOCEAN LTD.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Switzerland000-5353398-0599916(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)(Commission incorporation or organization)(I.R.S. Employer incorporation No.)

10 Chemin de Blandonnet 1214 Vernier, Geneva Switzerland

CH-1214

(Address of principal executive offices)

(zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: +41 (22) 930-9000

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

# Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangement of Certain Officers..

On May 12, 2013, J. Michael Talbert advised the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Transocean Ltd. (the "Company") that, if re-elected at the Company's upcoming May 17 Annual General Meeting, he will retire from the Board no later than the Company's 2014 Annual General Meeting. To facilitate an orderly transition of leadership, should Mr. Talbert be elected by the Board as Chairman following the upcoming Annual General Meeting, he will step down as Chairman no later than the Board's November 2013 meeting. Mr. Talbert's retirement is not due to any disagreement with the Company or its management regarding any matter relating to the Company's operations, policies or practices. Mr. Talbert, formerly CEO of the Company from 1994 to 2002, has served on the Board since 1994. The Company expressed its appreciation to Mr. Talbert for his many years of service.

#### Item 8.01. Other Events.

On May 12, 2013, the Company issued a press release announcing the planned retirement of Mr. Talbert. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

The exhibit to this report furnished pursuant to item 7.01 is as follows:

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release dated May 12, 2013

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

TRANSOCEAN LTD.

Date: May 13, 2013 By /s/ Jill S. Greene

Jill S. Greene Authorized Person

# **Index to Exhibits**

Exhibit	
Number	Description
<u> </u>	

99.1 Press Release dated May 12, 2013



# Transocean Ltd. Investor Relations and Corporate Communications

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FOR RELEASE: May 12, 2013

# J. MICHAEL TALBERT ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR RETIREMENT FROM TRANSOCEAN'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ZUG, SWITZERLAND -- Transocean Ltd. (NYSE: RIG) (SIX: RIGN) today announced that J. Michael Talbert has advised the Board of Directors that, if re-elected at the company's upcoming Annual General Meeting ("AGM") on May 17, he will retire from the Board no later than the company's 2014 AGM. To facilitate an orderly transition of leadership, should Mr. Talbert be elected by the Board as Chairman following the upcoming AGM, he will step down as Chairman no later than the Board's November 2013 meeting, at which time a new, independent Chairman will be announced. Mr. Talbert, formerly CEO of Transocean from 1994 to 2002, has served on the Board of Directors since 1994.

Mr. Talbert said, "I am honored to have served Transocean, and to have done so as a member of a very knowledgeable and experienced Board of Directors. During my 20 years at Transocean, I have worked diligently to represent the best interests of all of our stakeholders. In this spirit, and after consultations with our shareholders, I have decided to retire from the Board on a timetable that will allow the Board to carefully select a new chairman who will help guide the company in the creation of sustainable, superior value for all shareholders."

The Board of Directors issued the following statement:

On behalf of the Board, our shareholders, employees and other stakeholders, we would like to thank Mike for his many years of service to the company, including eight years as CEO and three terms as Chairman, and we look forward to continuing to work with him until his retirement. In conjunction with the Board and management, Mike had the vision to transform Transocean into the world's leading offshore driller with the most capable fleet in the industry. In addition, he helped shepherd the company through the extraordinarily challenging period following the Macondo incident and was, and continues to be, instrumental in guiding management in the creation and implementation of key operational initiatives that are positively impacting the company's performance. His contribution to the Board will be sorely missed.

"Mike's deep industry and company knowledge, thorough understanding of the value we provide our customers and consistent, strong leadership have played a very important role in making Transocean the company it is today," said Steven Newman, CEO of Transocean. "I want to personally thank him for his mentorship, counsel and guidance, particularly during the difficult period following the Macondo incident, and I look forward to continuing to benefit from his leadership until his retirement."

The company's Corporate Governance Committee intends to promptly commence a process to identify a candidate to fill the vacancy resulting from Mr. Talbert's retirement from the Board. As it conducts this process, the Committee will take into consideration the views of the company's shareholders. This process will be consistent with Transocean's historical focus on regularly infusing fresh perspectives into an experienced and knowledgeable Board as evidenced by the fact that, if elected, current Board nominee Frederico Curado will be the seventh independent Director to be added to the Board during the past two years. Among other characteristics, the Committee will seek a clearly independent candidate with the relevant skills, character, diverse background and global experience to enhance the Board's decision-making process and to further its objective of creating value for shareholders.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

Statements included in this press release, including, but not limited to, those regarding the proposed dividend, the company's capital allocation strategy, value-creating objectives and sustainability of potential future distributions, that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements that involve certain assumptions and uncertainties. These statements are based on currently available competitive, financial, and economic data along with our current operating plans and involve risks and uncertainties including, but not limited to, shareholder approval, market conditions, Transocean's results of operations, the effect and results of litigation, assessments and contingencies, and other factors detailed in "Risk Factors" in the company's most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Report for the first quarter of 2013 filed on Form 10-Q, and elsewhere in Transocean's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize (or the other consequences of such a development worsen), or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Transocean disclaims any intention or obligation to update publicly or revise such statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

This press release does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities, and it does not constitute an offering prospectus within the meaning of article 652a or article 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or a listing prospectus within the meaning of the listing rules of the SIX Swiss Exchange. Investors must rely on their own evaluation of Transocean Ltd. and its securities, including the merits and risks involved. Nothing contained herein is, or shall be relied on as, a promise or representation as to the future performance of Transocean Ltd.

### **About Transocean**

Transocean is a leading international provider of offshore contract drilling services for oil and gas wells. The company specializes in technically demanding sectors of the global offshore drilling business with a particular focus on deepwater and harsh environment drilling services, and believes that it operates one of the most versatile offshore drilling fleets in the world.

Transocean owns or has partial ownership interests in, and operates a fleet of, 83 mobile offshore drilling units consisting of 48 High-Specification Floaters (Ultra-Deepwater, Deepwater and Harsh-Environment drilling rigs), 25 Midwater Floaters and 10 High-Specification Jackups. In addition, we have six Ultra-Deepwater Drillships and two High-Specification Jackups under construction.

For more information about Transocean, please visit www.deepwater.com.