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**PROJECT FINANCE/DEVELOPMENT GROUP JOINS  
WILLKIE'S PARIS OFFICE**

**New York, NY (May 3, 2010)** --- Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP today announced that effective May 1, 2010, Thierry Laloum, Amir Jahanguiri and Vincent Brenot, formerly with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, have joined the firm as partners in the Paris office.

Messrs. Laloum, Jahanguiri and Brenot have established a strong reputation for their combined expertise in the fields of financing law, public law and energy law, as well as environmental law and regulated activities. Working collaboratively, they have uniquely integrated their specialized legal skills to build a practice that is widely recognized as a leader in the areas of public financings, PPPs, concessions and project financings (infrastructures and energy) in France, North Africa and the Middle East.

Willkie Co-Chairman Thomas Cerabino stated, "We are delighted to welcome Thierry, Amir and Vincent to the firm. They join a talented group of Willkie lawyers in Paris and we are confident of their ability to continue and grow a strong projects-oriented practice in Paris."

Paris Managing Partner Daniel Payan said, "Thierry, Amir and Vincent are among the very best in their multifaceted areas of practice. They bring to Willkie a depth of expertise and experience that will greatly complement the work of our restructuring, competition law and corporate/private equity teams."

“Clearly it is a wonderful opportunity to be asked to help build a banking and finance practice in Willkie’s Paris office and to extend my practice to other fields of finance law, especially in the area of restructuring, where Willkie is well known for excellence,” stated Mr. Jahanguiri.

Mr. Laloum followed, “I was immediately enticed by Willkie’s entrepreneurial spirit and the tremendous development possibilities offered by the firm.”

Mr. Brenot commented, “I am thrilled to bring to the firm my experience in environmental law, particularly in the context of M&A transactions, and look forward to working with Willkie’s extraordinary lawyers in developing a public law practice in Paris.”

Mr. Laloum’s practice primarily involves advising public bodies, local governments, semi-publicly owned companies and financial institutions on the construction, financing and management of public assets and services (underground trains, hospitals, stadiums, plants for treatment of household waste, etc. ), including in connection with public-private partnerships.

Mr. Jahanguiri advises host governments, regulators, sponsors, contractors, off-takers, export credit agencies and lenders in highly complex financings of projects, notably in the infrastructure, water, power, petrochemical, industrial and metals, and mining sectors in France, North Africa and the Middle-East.

Mr. Brenot’s practice is mainly focused on administrative law, environmental law and planning law. He also assists clients in litigation related to administrative law, including public procurements, concession agreements and public-private partnerships, and in financings involving the public sector.

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Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is an international law firm of over 650 attorneys with offices in New York, Washington, Paris, London, Milan, Rome, Frankfurt and Brussels. The firm is headquartered in New York City at 787 Seventh Avenue. Tel: 212.728.8000.