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WILLKIE BROADENS ITS REAL ESTATE PRACTICE WITH THE ARRIVAL OF CORNELIA THALER

New York, NY (January 23, 2020) --- Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP today announced that real estate lawyer Cornelia Thaler joined the firm as a partner in the Frankfurt office.

Cornelia Thaler is one of the most prominent lawyers in the German real estate sector. She regularly advises property owners, developers, investors and financial institutions on real estate transactions and related financing. She previously led Clifford Chance's German real estate practice for eight years.

"Willkie is recognized in Germany as a leading transactional firm, most notably for private equity and M&A. We plan to leverage this platform to play a leading role in the real estate sector," says Ms. Thaler.

"We are excited to continue on our growth path with the addition of Cornelia Thaler," commented Georg Linde, managing partner of Willkie's Frankfurt office. "With her addition, we will take the real estate practice, including financing, to a new level as we clearly aim for the top of the market. As in all of our practice areas, we strive to advise our clients on their most important and most challenging matters."

Complex transactions are a particular strength of Willkie. Recently, Willkie has advised GoldenTree on the HSH Nordbank transaction, Unternehmensgruppe Theo Müller on the sale of the Nordsee restaurant business, and CVC on the acquisition of Bosch Packaging. Willkie has also been the long-standing advisor of various mid-cap private equity funds such as ARDIAN and 3i.

Recent real estate transactions include the combination of Kaufhof and Karstadt, the sale of the department stores at Cologne Hohe Strasse and Dusseldorf Carsch-Haus, and Acciona Energía on the sale of its German wind power assets. Further, Patrizia Germany and Domicil Real Estate Group belong to the firm's roster of real estate clients.

Ms. Thaler's addition follows the arrivals of well-known real estate financing lawyer Dr. Ralf Defren and real estate attorney Dr. Moritz Vettermann (Counsel). Together with Wolfgang Münchow (Counsel), and Dr. Markus Lauer (to join imminently), who has a wealth of experience in advising clients who hold residential assets, these additions showcase Willkie's strength across all relevant areas of the real estate sector.

Dr. Moritz Vettermann states: "I am very happy to see that the building of our real estate practice, which we started a year ago, is receiving another big push. We very much look forward to working together with Cornelia."

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is an international law firm of more than 700 attorneys with offices in New York, Washington, Houston, Palo Alto, San Francisco, Paris, London, Frankfurt, Brussels, Milan and Rome. The firm is headquartered in New York City at 787 Seventh Avenue. Tel: 212.728.8000.