



Luxembourg, 14 January 2011

Press release 2/11

Mr Per Christiansen sworn in as Judge of the EFTA Court

At a public sitting on the 13 January 2011, Mr Per Christiansen from Norway took the oath and entered into office as Judge of the EFTA Court with a term of office that ends on 17 January 2017. He replaced Judge Henrik Bull who was appointed to the Supreme Court of Norway.

The public sitting and the reception afterwards were attended by 100 people from the European and the Luxemburg judiciary, from politics and the civil society. Among the Court's guests were Mr. Vassilios Skouris, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, Mr Paul Mahoney, President of the Civil Service Tribunal of the European Union, Mr Vitor Manuel da Silva Caldeira, President of the Court of Auditors of the European Union, Mr. Georges Ravarani, President of the Administrative Court of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Mr Paul Helminger, Mayor of the City of Luxembourg as well as the ambassadors of several EU- und EFTA-States.

The Judges of the EFTA Court

Carl Baudenbacher was born in 1947; Assistant Universities of Berne and Zurich, 1972-1978; Legal Secretary, Bulach District Court, 1982-1984; Visiting Professor, Universities of Bochum, Berlin, Tübingen, Marburg, Saarbrücken, 1984-1986; Professor of Private Law, University of Kaiserslautern, 1987; Chair of Private, Commercial and Economic Law, University of St. Gallen since 1987; Managing Director of the University of St. Gallen Institute of European Law 1991; Visiting Professor, University of Geneva, 1991; Visiting Professor University of Texas School of Law from 1993 to 2004; Chairman of the St. Gallen International Competition Law Forum since 1993; Member of the Supreme Court of the Principality of Liechtenstein, 1994-1995; Expert advisor of the Governments of the Principality of Liechtenstein, Israel, the Russian Federation and the Swiss Confederation as well as of both chambers of the Parliament of the Swiss Confederation; Judge of the EFTA Court since 6 September 1995; President of the EFTA Court since 15 January 2003.

Thorgeir Örlygsson was born in 1952; Assistant Judge, City Court of Reykjavík, 1978-1982; Legal Secretary to the Supreme Court Justices, Supreme Court of Iceland, 1982-1984; Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Iceland, 1984-1986; Judge, City Court of Reykjavík, 1986-1987; Professor (Property Law, Law of Obligations, Private International Law), Faculty of Law,

University of Iceland, 1987–1999; Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Iceland, 1995–1997; Vice- President of the University of Iceland, 1996–1997; Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Trade of Iceland, 1999–2002; Judge of the EFTA Court from 1 January 2003.

Per Christiansen was born in 1949; Legal Counsellor, Norges Bank, 1976-1982; Head of Division (Deputy Director as from 1984) in the Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, 1982-1985; Head of Office and Secretary to the Board of Governors, Norges Bank, 1985-1986; Assistant Director General of the Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, 1986-1988; Counsellor, Norwegian Mission to the European Communities (Brussels), 1988-1994; Director General in the Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Finance, 1994; Director General of the Financial Markets Department, Ministry of Finance, 1994-1995; Registrar at the EFTA Court, 1995-1988; Advocate at Advokatfirmaet PricewaterhouseCoopers DA, 1998-2002; Professor of Law at the University of Tromsø, Norway since 2001.

Henrik Bull was born in 1957; Executive officer, later legal adviser, Department of Legislation, Norwegian Ministry of Justice 1985-1996 (1990–1993: Norwegian representative in, later EFTA Chairman of, the Joint EFTA-EC General Drafting Committee on the EEA Agreement); Researcher at the Centre for European Law, University of Oslo, 1996-2002; Associate professor and director, Centre for European Law, 2002-2005; Ad hoc member of the College of the EFTA Surveillance Authority, 1998-2001; Ad hoc judge of the EFTA Court, 2001-2005; Judge of the EFTA Court since 1 January 2006.