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Press release 9/2011

At a public sitting today, Mr Páll Hreinsson from Iceland will take the oath and enter into office as Judge of the EFTA Court with a term of office that ends on 31 December 2014. He will replace the current Judge nominated by Iceland, Mr Thorgeir Örlygsson.

The public sitting will be held at the Novotel Luxembourg Kirchberg, 6, rue du Fort Niedergrünwald, Luxembourg at 18:00.

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.

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, University of Tromsø, Norway 2001-2010; Judge of the EFTA Court from 17 January 2011.

Páll Hreinsson was born in 1963; Assistant Judge, City Court of Reykjavik, 1988-1991; Special Assistant, The Althing Ombudsman (The Parliamentary Ombudsman's Office), 1991-1998; Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Iceland, 1998-1999; Professor of Law, University of Iceland, 1999-2007; Vice-Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Iceland, 2002-2005; Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Iceland, 2005 – 2007; Judge, Supreme Court of Iceland, 2007-2011.

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.