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### Standing for professional tax advice

## EUROPEAN ORGANISATION OF TAX ADVISERS ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

### CFE General Assembly elects Piergiorgio Valente as President and elects new Executive Board

On 23 September 2016, the General Assembly of the CFE elected Piergiorgio Valente (Italy) as new CFE President for a two-year term starting on 1 January 2017. He will succeed Henk Koller (the Netherlands) who has been CFE President since 2015 and has not stood for re-election.

Piergiorgio Valente is a Certified Tax Consultant and Auditor under Italian Law and Founder and Managing Partner of the law firm *Valente Associati GEB Partners* in Milan. He has been chair of the CFE Fiscal Committee and CFE representative to the European Commission's *Platform for Tax Good Governance* since 2013.

As new Vice President, Petra Pospíšilová (Czech Republic) was elected, succeeding Mihaela Mitroi (Romania). New Chairwoman of the Fiscal Committee will be Stella Raventós-Calvo (Spain). The CFE Professional Affairs Committee will be chaired by Wim Gohres (the Netherlands) who will take over from Dick Barmentlo (also the Netherlands). Vice Presidents Bruno Gouthière (France) and Ian Hayes (United Kingdom) as well as Treasurer Branislav Kováč (Slovakia) were re-elected.

Multinational and constructive discussions were held on significant cross border tax matters affecting the tax adviser profession throughout Europe including the changes presaged by BEPS, regulation and codes of conduct, digitalisation and taxpayer rights.

The General Assembly took place in Warsaw and was hosted by the Polish Chamber of Tax Advisers, KIDP (Krajowa Izba Doradców Podatkowych).

#### Statements:

Outgoing President Henk Koller: *"CFE has been the voice of the tax adviser profession for over half a century. During that time we have adapted to and absorbed the many changes to the tax and professional landscape and I am very happy to hand on an organisation well aware of the issues now confronting tax advisers with an excellent new President and Board more than capable of leading the CFE forward over the next decade. I finish my term proud of CFE and my term at the helm."*

Incoming President Piergiorgio Valente: *"It is an honour to have been elected by the General Assembly and I look forward to dealing with the many issues facing the tax adviser profession as leader of a highly qualified and dedicated Executive Board and management team. We will work for all our member bodies in handling the challenges arising especially those from BEPS, the crusade against artificial avoidance and incipient digitalisation. We will ensure that CFE continues to be the pre-eminent federation of tax adviser professional associations in Europe."*

Vice President Ian Hayes: *"We are delighted to have a pre-eminent President from Italy whose abilities and leadership will lead the Executive Board through the many issues we face in Europe over the coming decade. The new team is excited by the challenges we face, is not daunted by them and is keen to get to grips with them. We are more than confident that under Piergiorgio's leadership CFE will deal with them professionally, ethically and to the satisfaction of all our member organisations"*.

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Note for Editors:

The CFE is the leading European federation of tax advisers. It was founded in 1959 and embraces 26 national organisations from 21 European countries and within them over 200,000 individual tax professionals. CFE considers its functions to be to safeguard the professional interests of tax advisers, to exchange information about national tax laws and professional law and to contribute to coordination of tax law in Europe.