

PRESS RELEASE

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Subject CMS records year of strong growth in 2021

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- Total revenues of EUR 1.746bn, with 18% year-on-year growth
- Record number of partner promotions globally
- Norwegian firm Kluge joined CMS as global expansion continues
- Biggest rising brand in Global Elite Law Firm Brand Index after launching new “Future Facing” brand
- Successfully filed first annual Communication on Progress report as part of the UN Global Compact

Frankfurt, 21 July 2022: CMS, a leading global law firm, today announces revenues for the financial year January-December 2021 of EUR 1.746bn.

The results reflect a positive year for CMS, translating into year-on-year growth of 18%. While dealing with the continued economic and societal ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic, CMS focused on clients and meeting their needs. For example, the CMS Breach Assistant app provides businesses with guidelines and tools on how to navigate data breaches. Similarly, the Global Growth Initiative enabled CMS to better understand clients’ needs in various markets and deepen existing relationships.

Of the financial year, **Pierre-Sébastien Thill, CMS Chairman**, said:

“Over the last two years, the ways in which we do business have perhaps been altered irrevocably, but with many of our clients at the vanguard of these changes, we at CMS were able to support them throughout this evolution by continually expanding the

breadth and depth of our services. This is directly reflected in our strong, financial performance based largely on organic growth.”

Investing in people

This year saw an unprecedented number of global promotions to partner within the firm. A total of 60 appointments were made across 33 cities in Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and Africa, with women accounting for 43% of partner promotions globally.

The promotions reflect a successful year for CMS, underscoring the firm’s commitment to investing, nurturing and trusting in its people, keeping to the principles of the Diversity & Inclusion Charter which was launched in 2021.

CMS Chairman Pierre-Sébastien Thill commented: *“As a future-facing firm, we are responsible for investing in our people by providing supportive and progressive measures that enable everyone to thrive and reach their full potential. To see so many partner promotions in one year is testament to the calibre of the team and the inclusive nature of the firm.”*

International expansion

In 2021, CMS completed the integration of Kluge, a rapidly growing and acclaimed Norwegian firm with offices in Bergen, Oslo and Stavanger. With this, CMS has established its presence in a region with multiple opportunities in renewables, technology and M&A, building Kluge’s established market expertise into the CMS offering.

CMS Executive Partner Dr Duncan Weston added: *“Kluge’s international mindset and innovative approach are a great fit for CMS. With this expansion, our clients gained access to a Nordic market with significant potential and, in turn, Norwegian companies can rely on support from CMS experts when expanding into new markets.”*

Prioritising ESG

To support clients operating in this space, the firm established a taskforce dedicated to providing counsel in this rapidly changing sector. CMS has developed a number of services and products to support clients in ESG-related matters, including Green Trail, an AI audit tool designed to evaluate a company’s ESG position, identify opportunities and detect risks in due diligence processes.

CMS Executive Director Isabel Scholes stressed the importance of internal sustainability efforts: *“In August of last year, we filed our first annual Communication on Progress report with the UN. We continually improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our business strategy, culture and daily operations. This is an essential step in ‘walking our talk’ as a responsible business and we remain committed to working towards a more sustainable, prosperous future for all.”*

Technology and innovation

In 2021, the CMS-backed collaboration platform Lupl launched globally. Lupl is a shared workspace that eases the challenges law firms and legal departments typically encounter when working on legal matters within and between organisations. CMS is a founding investor in the platform, having launched in May 2020 as a collaboration between three major global law firms, CMS, Cooley and Rajah & Tann Asia.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Founded in 1999, CMS is an integrated, multi-jurisdictional organisation of law firms that offers full-service legal and tax advice. With more than 70 offices in over 40 countries across the world and more than 5,000 lawyers, CMS has long-standing expertise both in advising in its local jurisdictions and across borders. From major multinationals and mid-caps to enterprising start-ups, CMS provides the technical rigour, strategic excellence and long-term partnership to keep each client ahead in its chosen markets.

The CMS member firms provide a wide range of expertise across 19 practice areas and sectors, including Corporate/M&A, Energy & Climate Change, Funds, Life Sciences & Healthcare, TMC, Tax, Banking & Finance, Commercial, Antitrust, Competition and Trade, Dispute Resolution, Employment & Pensions, Intellectual Property and Real Estate.

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