Berenberg signs Principles of Responsible Investment

Hamburg. The Hamburg-based private bank Berenberg has signed the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI). In doing so, the second oldest bank in the world has made a commitment to environmental, social and governance (ESG) responsibility, and to integrating these into the investment process.

Dr. Hans-Walter Peters, Spokesman of the managing partners of Berenberg, said "Responsibility and sustainability are of great importance to Berenberg. By incorporating UNPRI in our investment approach, we are promoting sustainable business and meeting our social responsibility as asset managers."

Dr. Rupini Deepa Rajagopalan, Head of the ESG Office in Berenberg Wealth and Asset Management, added: "Sustainability issues are more and more important to investors. Our clients want to know what we are doing with their money, and in particular institutional investors question investment decisions. We meet these wishes. We also think that ESG-compliant companies have a competitive advantage on global markets."

Worldwide, some 2000 companies in 67 countries have signed the guideline, including 70 financial institutions in Germany. All told, these manage assets totalling 81.7 trillion dollars. The PRI initiative was started in 2006 by then-UN General Secretary Kofi Annan. Signatories commit themselves to reporting annually on their implementation of the individual principles, and based on this information the PRI Secretariat evaluates the signatories' activities and publishes them in an annual report.

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About Berenberg

Founded in 1590, Berenberg is one of Europe's leading privately owned banks today with its Wealth and Asset Management, Investment Banking and Corporate Banking divisions. Headquartered in Hamburg and led by managing partners, Berenberg maintains a strong presence in the financial centres of Frankfurt, London and New York.

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