



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Amsterdam, 27 April 2012

**Prof. Wijnen, Counsel to the Academic Chair, IBFD, appointed Officer of the Order of Oranje-Nassau for his extensive contribution to the development of international tax law**

It has pleased Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands to distinguish Prof. W.F.G.E.J.M. (Wim) Wijnen, Counsel to the Academic Chair at IBFD, as Officer of the Order of Oranje-Nassau.

The ceremony, performed by drs. Henri J.J. Lenferink, Mayor of Leiden, the Netherlands, took place Friday 27 April 2012, 10.30 AM, at the Hooglandse Kerk (Church) in Leiden.

**Officer of the Order of Oranje-Nassau for his extensive contribution to the development of international tax law**

The distinction was granted to Prof. Wijnen for his extensive contribution to the development of international tax law, which resulted in reinforcing the recognition of the Netherlands as an important country in the field, in particular through his work within IBFD as Director of the Research Staff and subsequently Counsel to the Academic Chair. His activities and merits include:

- Coaching many young foreign tax lawyers in developing their tax-technical and social skills;
- Carrying out or supporting high-level tax research by IBFD;
- Establishing the so-called IBFD Doctoral Series, which enables important PhD's on international tax law to become internationally available;
- Establishing an academic network of cooperation in international tax law between IBFD and in particular LUISS University of Rome in Italy, Queen Mary University of London in the UK and the University of Jönköping in Sweden;
- Supporting the work of the UN Committee of Experts in International Cooperation in Tax Matters;
- Developing a database covering worldwide case law related to the application of tax treaties, thus facilitating a better harmonization of court decisions related to the interpretation of a particular tax treaty;
- His being one of the founding fathers, and a member of the board, of the International Association of Tax Judges, which aims at a gradual convergence in the interpretation of tax treaties worldwide;

Prof. Wijnen also greatly contributed to the development of international tax law within the context of his work for the Dutch Ministry of Finance related to tax treaty negotiations and case litigations, and, as part-time judge, in the Tax Chamber of the Court of 's-Hertogenbosch.

**About Prof. Wijnen**

Prof. Wijnen studied state and administrative law and tax law at the University of Leiden. He started his career at a law firm in Amsterdam and as a tax inspector in the Netherlands tax administration. He subsequently worked at the Bilateral Affairs Division of the International Fiscal Affairs Department of the Netherlands Ministry of Finance, which division he headed from 1988 until 1991.

After working as an advisor with Loyens & Volkmaars for three years, he became Head of the IBFD research staff in 1993 and a member of IBFD's Board of Directors, which position he occupied until 2003. Since then, he has remained Counsel to the Academic Chair at IBFD.



## PRESS RELEASE

Prof. Wijnen has also been a visiting Professor of International Tax Law at LUISS University, Rome, since 1995, Judge of the Court of Appeals, 's-Hertogenbosch, since 1998 and one of the Executive Directors of the International Association of Tax Judges since its establishment.

For more information, contact Sorrel Hidding, Marketing Manager: +31 20 554 0142 / [s.hidding@ibfd.org](mailto:s.hidding@ibfd.org)

### **About IBFD**

IBFD is a leading provider of cross-border tax expertise, with offices in Amsterdam, Beijing, Washington and Kuala Lumpur. IBFD serves Fortune 500 companies, governments, international consultancy firms and tax advisors. Renowned as the authoritative centre for cross-border tax expertise, IBFD utilizes her global network of Tax Experts and Knowledge Centre to remain at the forefront of global tax information.

[www.ibfd.org](http://www.ibfd.org)

### **About the grade of Officer of the Order of Oranje-Nassau (Officier in de Orde van Oranje-Nassau)**

The Order of Orange-Nassau is a military and civil order of the Netherlands granted to people who deserve appreciation and recognition from society for the special way in which they have carried out their activities.

The King or Queen Regnant of the Netherlands is the Grand Master of the Order of Orange-Nassau and decides to grant the order in any of the six possible grades: Grand Cross, Grand Officer, Commander, Officer, Knight, Member.