



Manfred Wimmer to join Erste Bank Management Board

21.04.2008

Following the decision by Peter Kisbenedek to return to Hungary for family reasons

Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG (Erste Bank) announces that following the decision by Peter Kisbenedek to return to Budapest and his subsequent resignation from his position on the Management Board, Manfred Wimmer (52), has been appointed by the Bank's Supervisory Board as new Chief Performance Officer and CFO of Erste Bank.

Manfred Wimmer, who has led the integration of BCR into Erste Bank Group in a highly professional manner, while at the same time ensuring growth of BCR's business and delivery on its financial targets, has an ideal background for this new role.

Prior to being appointed interim CEO of BCR, Manfred Wimmer has held a number of senior management positions at Erste Bank since he joined in 1998, building up an extensive knowledge of group operations. He has made a significant contribution to the integration of Erste Bank's most important acquisitions and, as Head of Group Architecture and Strategic Group Development of Erste Bank Group, played a major role in the development of the new group structure.

Mr. Kisbenedek (43) served as CEO of Erste Bank Hungary from November 2000, joining the Erste Bank's Management Board in July 2007. In his seven years as CEO of Erste Bank Hungary he successfully turned around the Hungarian operation and managed the smooth and rapid integration of Postabank.

"While we appreciate Peter Kisbenedek's contribution to our operations, we are very pleased to welcome Manfred Wimmer back to Vienna, and are confident that his broad experience gained in particular through integrating Erste Bank's major acquisitions in CEE make him an excellent choice for the new position", commented Andreas Treichl. "On behalf of the Management Board of Erste Bank I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Kisbenedek for his hard work over the past 8 years, and wish him and his family all the best for the future", added Treichl.

Mr. Kisbenedek will terminate his contract with Erste Bank effective 30 June 2008 and Mr. Wimmer will take up his new position in Vienna on 1 September 2008. In the meantime Andreas Treichl, CEO of Erste Bank will fulfil the responsibilities of the CPO/CFO.