Wiesbaden, 22th January 2018

**Henri Wilmes was appointed CIO for A&O Hotels and Hostels**

**A&O Hotels and Hostels has appointed Henri Wilmes as Chief Investment Officer. His new role has become effective as of 8 January 2018. Wilmes brings extensive hotel and real estate investment experience to A&O.**

**In his new role as Chief Investment Officer, Wilmes will lead the expansion of A&O and contribute to its growth with extensive know-how in international hotel investments. His main focus will primarily lie on Spain, Italy, Portugal, UK and Poland. Wilmes sees huge potential in introducing the very successful hostel concept to those markets. About his new role, Wilmes says: “I am looking forward to this challenge. With TPG Real Estate as a partner, A&O is in an exciting phase to significantly grow its pan European footprint and strengthen its position as Europe´s leading hostel operator”.**

**“By appointing Henri Wilmes as CIO, A&O won an expert with a large network and high level of industry knowledge. We strongly believe he will further develop our brand and make a significant contribution to our European expansion," said Oliver Winter, founder and CEO of A&O Hotels and Hostels.**

**From 2011 to 2017, Wilmes served as Vice President Acquisitions for London and Regional Properties (L+R), one of the largest private real estate funds in Europe with a portfolio of over 78 hotels worldwide. There he was involved in transactions for a combined value in excess of GBP 2.0bn. Thanks to Wilmes engagement and knowledge, L+R received the HAMA Europe Asset Management Achievement Award in 2016. Before joining L+R, Wilmes worked in financial and strategic advisory to the Spanish real estate and hospitality sectors with a focus on M&A and debt restructuring.**

To find out more, please visit [www.aohostels.com/en](http://www.aohostels.com/en).

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**About A&O**

A&O has been managing 34 establishments in 22 cities and six countries (Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Denmark and Italy) since 2000. As Europe's largest provider of hostel accommodation, the chain reports annual growth of over 15 percent. A&O Copenhagen Nørrebro opened in May 2017, followed by A&O Venice Mestre in July and A&O Bremen Main Station in October. Among others, the Group will also open another hotel in Frankfurt am Main in 2018. A&O posted revenue of around €114 million with around 24,000 beds and more than 3.7 million overnight stays in 2016.

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