



European Confederation of Institutes of Internal Auditing

Press release

22 October 2012

## **Europe must choose right governance model, says incoming ECIIA president**

Marie-Hélène Laimay was elected president of the European Confederation of Institutes of Internal Auditing (ECIIA) at the organisation's annual conference in Amsterdam on 16 September.

Laimay said that corporate governance across Europe was in a stage of transition and that it was crucial to the economic success of the region that it chose the right model for the future.

"I'm determined to continue the excellent advocacy work we have done to ensure that internal audit is properly represented in European law and in its codes of corporate governance," she said.

Laimay said that internal audit was now well recognised as providing the third line of defence among leading regulators, listed companies and public sector organisations. For more on the three-line of defence model, click [here](#).

Under her presidency, ECIIA would continue to build relationships with key European institutions interested in corporate governance, support the work of its parent organisation, Global IIA and communicate its message to stakeholders.

Laimay is a member of the board of IFACI (Institut Français de l'Audit et du Contrôle Interne) member of the Audit Committee created for THE French Prime Minister Government and senior vice president audit and internal control assessment at the global healthcare company Sanofi.

The ECIIA elected Thijs Smit, chairman advisory board IIA Netherlands, as vice President. Angela Witzany, president IIA Austria and Silvio de Girolamo, board IIA Italy, also joined the board.

Existing members are Juan Ignacio Ruiz Zorrilla, vice chairman IIA Spain, Martin Stevens, board IIA Norway, Philip Ratcliffe, audit committee chair Chartered IIA – UK and Ireland and Hans Joachim Büsselberg, board IIA Germany.



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### Notes to editors

#### About ECIIA

The ECIIA is the European Confederation of Institutes of Internal Auditing, uniting 37 countries and almost 40000 professionals. The ECIIA's objective is to support corporate governance and the internal audit profession in the European Union and in the ECIIA's member countries and to promote the application of the global Institute of Internal Auditors' Standards and Code of Ethics to all internal audit professionals in the public and the private sector. The ECIIA undertakes research on topics related to internal audit, business control, risk management and corporate governance. It publishes position papers, briefings, reports and a newsletter.

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