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***Press Release***

**InsurTech Hub Munich: Miriam Hook Appointed Managing Director**

**On May 1, 2024, lawyer and insurance manager Miriam Hook will assume the role of Managing Director of InsurTech Hub Munich (ITHM) e.V., a globally leading innovation platform in the insurance industry. Miriam Hook succeeds Christian Gnam, who, after nearly five years as Managing Director of ITHM, has taken over the leadership of the Biotechnology Innovation and Start-up Center (IZB) in Martinsried near Munich. Concurrently with Miriam Hook's appointment, a leadership team for ITHM is being established. Esther Prax and Jens Schindler, both long-time members of the ITHM team, will assume additional responsibilities. Esther Prax, in addition to her role as Program Director, will also serve as Deputy Managing Director. Head of Finance Jens Schindler will lead ITHM Innovation GmbH alongside Miriam Hook, where the service offerings of ITHM are consolidated.**

Dr. Klaus Driever, Chairman of the Board of ITHM, stated, "We are delighted to have Miriam Hook as Managing Director for ITHM, who with her expertise in insurance, innovation, and regulation will continue the dynamic success story of the hub. The appointment of Miriam Hook further strengthens ITHM's position as an international beacon in the Insurtech world."

After completing her law studies at LMU Munich and gaining initial experience as a lawyer, Miriam Hook embarked on her insurance career, starting in New York. In 2004, she began her professional journey at Munich Re as an Underwriter, later transitioning to Client Management and Treaty Underwriting UK. After serving as a Class Underwriter at Liberty Syndicates (Lloyd's of London), she joined Swiss Re in 2015. There, she most recently held the position of Vice President, overseeing growth and innovation projects in the Mobility, Sustainability, and Cyber Solutions sectors for Global clients and in the DACH market.

Esther Prax has been instrumental in advancing ITHM's innovation programs and formats since 202, and is responsible for the hub's strategic direction. Previously, she worked as a consultant, including at Deloitte Digital. Jens Schindler assumed his role at ITHM in 2020, having previously worked at Siemens Financial Services and Crédit Agricole.

Since its inception in 2017, ITHM has been part of the German de:hub initiative. Hubert Aiwanger, Bavarian Minister of Economic Affairs, Regional Development, and Energy, recently highlighted the significance and development of ITHM, emphasizing that ITHM

has "evolved into a Bavarian success model with global impact." He added, "Bavaria's insurance and financial services sector benefits from the over 700 startups in the ITHM ecosystem, the collaborations between companies, and the mutual knowledge exchange among insurers of various sizes, technology firms, and cross-industry partners." The Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs provides financial support to ITHM.

***Über den InsurTech Hub Munich (ITHM):***

*InsurTech Hub Munich (ITHM) is the collaboration platform for the technological transformation of the insurance industry. It is ITHM's mission to facilitate impactful collaboration among insurers, tech firms, startups, universities, and investors to drive and accelerate digitization. Through topic-focused innovation programmes and premium thought leadership insights, ITHM creates the right environment to generate business innovation. Expert communities from within the industry, excellently structured processes, an outstanding global network, and targeted preparation of all stakeholders, are the elements for building the most relevant platform for the technological transformation of the insurance industry. InsurTech Hub Munich has been appointed as digital hub by the Federal Government of Germany and is funded by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy.*

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