Latvia/Riga, July 7, 2017

**The Rezidor Hotel Group is strengthening its position by opening a regional office in Riga**

**The Rezidor Hotel Group is one of the most dynamic hotel companies in the world and a member of the Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group launched the Baltic regional office, which will be located in Riga, thus strengthening its position in the region. Michael Jacobi, who up until now was the general manager of Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel, is assigned to the position of director of Baltic and Ukrainian regional office.**

Michael Jacobi, the former General Manager of the Radisson Blu Latvia Conference & Spa Hotel has been appointed as the Regional Director, for the Baltics and Ukraine and since July 1, 2017 he is responsible for all 18 Rezidor properties with over 4300 rooms in the Baltic states and Ukraine. Meanwhile, Gerhard Erasmus has been appointed as the General Manager for the Radisson Blu Latvia Conference & Spa hotel. While the Radisson Blu Elizabete and Radisson Blu Ridzene from now on will be managed by the new General manager George Miu.   
  
Michael has worked in various management positions for international hotel chains in Germany, Ireland, Qatar and the USA. He joined Rezidor in September 2008 as Executive Assistant Manager at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Kuwait. In November 2009, he was promoted to General Manager of the Radisson Blu Hotel in Muscat, Oman. In April 2012, he became General Manager of the Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel in Tbilisi, and, in January 2014, Cluster General Manager, supporting the Radisson Blu Hotel, Batumi, Georgia, and future openings in Georgia. Since January 2015, he has served as General Manager of the Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa hotel in Riga and as District Director Baltics.

“I was lucky to meet some of the most amazing people in the hotels I worked in,” he says. “Some have turned into really good friends, and, as a result, have become loyal to our brands and actually developed into raving ambassadors of our hotels. The start of these relationships was always the same – talk to guests in person, find out who they are, what they really like and make it personal. Very often a common interest in football, or golf or the appreciation of a good glass of wine is all it takes to build long-lasting relationships with our guests.”

Gerhard Erasmus has worked in the tourism and hospitality industry for more than 20 years, he joined the Radisson Blu hotel network in 2013 and spent the last two years managing Radisson Blu Elizabete and Radisson Blu Ridzene hotels.

A newcomer to the team is George Miu, who joined the Latvian team in July 5 this year. Up to now George has managed hotels in Bulgaria and Armenia and his experience in the tourism industry spans almost twenty years.

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**About Radisson Blu®**

[Radisson Blu](http://www.radissonblu.com)® is one of the world’s leading hotel brands with 300 hotels in operation in 69 countries and territories. Radisson Blu’s vibrant, contemporary and engaging hospitality is characterized by a unique *Yes I Can!SM* service philosophy, and all of its first class hotels offer a range of signature features that are empathetic to the challenges of modern travel, including the 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. Distinguished the world over as the brand with *Hotels Designed to Say YES!SM*, Radisson Blu offers a vivid visual celebration of leading-edge style where the delight is in the detail. Radisson Blu hotels are located in prime locations in major cities, airport gateways and leisure destinations across the world.

Radisson Blu is a part of Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group, which also includes Quorvus Collection, Radisson®, Radisson RED, Park Plaza®, Park Inn® by Radisson and Country Inns & Suites By CarlsonSM. For reservations and more information visit, [www.radissonblu.com](http://www.radissonblu.com). Connect with Radisson Blu on social media: @RadissonBlu on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/RadissonBlu?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/radissonblu/) and [Facebook.com/RadissonBlu](https://www.facebook.com/radissonblu/).

**About The Rezidor Hotel Group**

The Rezidor Hotel Group is one of the most dynamic hotel companies in the world and a member of the Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group. The group features a portfolio of 484 hotels with over 105,000 rooms in operation or under development in 82 countries.

Rezidor operates the core brands Radisson Blu® and Park Inn® by Radisson in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA), along with the Club CarlsonSM loyalty program for frequent hotel guests. In early 2014 and together with Carlson, Rezidor launched the new brands Radisson RED (lifestyle select) and Quorvus Collection (luxury). In 2016, Rezidor acquired 49% of prizeotel. Rezidor has an industry-leading Responsible Business Program and was named one the World's Most Ethical Companies by the US think-tank Ethisphere.

In November 2006, Rezidor was listed on the Nasdaq Stockholm, Sweden. HNA Tourism Group Co., Ltd., a division of HNA Group Co., Ltd.—a Fortune Global 500 company with operations across aviation, tourism, hospitality, finance and online services among other sectors—became the majority shareholder in December 2016.

The Rezidor Hotel Group and its brands employ 43,700 people in EMEA and is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

For more information, visit [www.rezidor.com](http://www.rezidor.com" \t "_blank)

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