

Brussels, 07.09.2018

The consortium CFE/Cofinimmo will build the Neo II project, designed by Jean Nouvel, in Brussels



The Neo II public procurement has been assigned to the consortium composed of CFE and Cofinimmo. The purpose of this public procurement, which has been launched by the city of Brussels and the Brussels-Capital Region in 2013, is a Design-Build-Finance-Maintain (DBFM) contract for a convention centre and a high-class hotel. The complex will be located on the Heysel plateau, north of Brussels, next to the Atomium.

The goal of Neo II is to confirm the role of Brussels as an international conference city. A prestigious 49,000 m² convention centre will be able to receive more than 5,000 participants simultaneously in various events such as international conventions, spectacles and meetings. The centre will be coupled with a luxury four-star hotel, with a surface area of 15,000 m² and comprising 250 rooms.

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The consortium CFE/Cofinimmo called on the internationally renowned contemporary French architect Jean Nouvel to design the site. His latest masterpiece is the Louvre museum in Abu Dhabi, which was inaugurated in November 2017. The Belgian bureau MDW Architecture will supervise the implementation of the project.

Signing of the contracts will take place in the fourth quarter of 2018. Construction works will start after obtaining the permits, planned for 2020, and should take three years. The convention centre's operational phase will have a fixed duration of 20 years and will start as from delivery of the certificate of availability at the end of the construction works.

As for the hotel, the consortium CFE/Cofinimmo intends to conclude an agreement with NH Hotel Group. This international group has large experience in hotel infrastructure management, combined with MICE¹ infrastructure all over Europe.

Jean-Pierre Hanin, Chief Executive Officer of Cofinimmo: "As an international real estate company based in Brussels, we are thrilled to be able to add our expertise in real estate and know-how in Public-Private Partnerships to a flagship project that will emphasise the international character of Brussels, in collaboration with our partner CFE, the City of Brussels and the Brussels-Capital Region."

Renaud Bentégeat, Director of CFE : " Already partner in Neo I, CFE confirms its remarkable presence on the Heysel plateau serving the City of Brussels and its inhabitants. CFE, a company established for almost 140 years in Brussels, is proud to contribute again to the dynamism of the Brussels Capital Region. The partnership between CFE and Cofinimmo means a new stage in the economic development of the City of Brussels and its Region. "

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¹ MICE: Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions.

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About Cofinimmo:

Founded in 1983, Cofinimmo is today the foremost listed Belgian real estate company specialising in rental property and an important player in the European market.

The company owns a diversified property portfolio spread over Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Germany, worth 3.6 billion EUR, representing a total surface area of nearly 2,000,000 m². Riding on demographic trends, its main investment segments are healthcare properties (50 %), offices (34 %) and distribution networks (16 %). As an independent company that consistently applies the highest corporate governance and sustainability standards, Cofinimmo services its tenants and manages its properties through its team of over 130 people, operating from Brussels, Paris and Breda.

Cofinimmo is listed on Euronext Brussels (BEL 20) and benefits from the fiscal REIT regime in Belgium (RREC), in France (SIIC) and in the Netherlands (FBI). Its activities are controlled by the Financial Services and Markets Authority, the Belgian regulator.

At 02.07.2018, its total market capitalisation stands at 2.4 billion EUR. The company pursues investment policies which seek to offer a high dividend yield and capital protection over the long term, targeting both institutional and private investors.

www.cofinimmo.com

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About CFE

CFE, founded in 1880 is a Belgian industrial group active in three different divisions. The first, Dredging, Environment, Offshore and Infra, is carried out by its wholly owned subsidiary DEME, one of the world leaders in the field. DEME has a modern fleet of multipurpose vessels equipped with the latest technologies. The second, Contracting, encompasses the group's construction, multitechnics and rail activities in Belgium, Luxembourg, Poland and Tunisia. The third, Real Estate Development, covers the real estate projects developed by BPI in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland.

The CFE group currently employs more than 8,000 people and is active on every continent. CFE is listed on Euronext Brussels and is 60.40% owned by Ackermans & van Haaren.

This press release is available on our website at www.cfe.be.