



## **Matheson announced as new annual sponsor of 30% Club Ireland**

- Top law firm to provide support to Irish Chapter of global campaign for gender balanced leadership
- New members appointed to 30% Club Advisory Board
- 30% Club Ireland Executive Education Programme launches for 2024, with more than 50 scholarship opportunities for female talent across Irish Universities

**Thursday, March 7, 2024:** The 30% Club Ireland today announced that leading Irish law firm Matheson will provide funding for activities, through its support of the 30% Club Country Executive Role, for the next 12 months.

The Irish chapter of the 30% Club works to support the achievement of a minimum of 30% gender balance at all senior decision-making tables across Ireland, including boards and C-suite. It is business led and represents the needs of supporter organisations across the public and private sector. Since its inception 10 years ago, the percentage of women on boards in Ireland has increased from 12%, to 39% for the ISEQ 20 and to 28% for other listed companies - with more work to be done for private companies, and even greater focus needed for improved balance at C-suite.

Matheson take over the sponsorship of the Country Executive Role from EY, who provided financial support for the last two years - following in the footsteps of previous funders including AIB, Accenture, PWC and Northern Trust. 30% Club Ireland Chair Melfosa O’Caoimh said she was delighted that Matheson will sponsor the important initiative in 2024:

“The 30% Club campaign is very much based on a volunteer model, and in the absence of any membership fees, support from key organisation members is critical to ensure that important activities, communication and representation take place. To this end, I am delighted to welcome Matheson on board as key sponsor for our dedicated Country Executive Role this year.

“I would like to extend my warm thanks to Frank O’Keeffe, Managing Partner and the team at EY Ireland, who kindly provided sponsorship for the last two years, which is much appreciated.”

Matheson Managing Partner Michael Jackson said:

"We are delighted to be partnering with the Irish chapter of the 30% Club, having been a member and supporter for many years. Diversity and inclusion is a strategic priority for us as a



firm, and is one of the core pillars of our Impactful Business Programme. At Matheson, we believe that diverse perspectives are essential for driving innovation and success. We have a long-standing focus on gender equity within our firm and are committed to creating an environment in which women are able to progress, and where all genders feel supported to thrive professionally while balancing their responsibilities inside and outside the workplace.

By aligning with the 30% Club, we aim to further our commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable workplace and champion meaningful progress towards greater female representation at leadership levels. We look forward to working with the 30% Club Chair, Country Executive and Advisory Board this year, as they continue to build on the success achieved to date across the business landscape in Ireland.”

This month the 30% Club also welcomes four new members to their CEO Advisory Board, and these include: Lorna Conn, CEO of CPL Resources; Oonagh McPhillips, Secretary General of the Department of Justice; Margot Slattery, Global Head of Diversity and Inclusion at ISS World Services; and Michael Jackson Managing Partner, Matheson. The Advisory Board, which represents senior business and professional leaders across Irish society provides strategic input and support to the Ireland Chapter campaign.

Gillian Harford, 30% Club Country Executive, welcomed the new Advisory Board members and said that the 30% Club Ireland has a busy programme of activity in 2024:

“Our Advisory Board has an important role in terms of shaping the strategy of the Irish Chapter, and they feed into the direction of travel. They sit across different sectors, which gives good balance and insight from a variety of perspectives. I would like to welcome our new members and thank them for contributing to this role.

“I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Matheson for supporting my role as Country Executive. We have the key Chair and CEO Conference coming up very soon, which will be our tenth annual conference, and on March 1st we launched our annual Executive Education Scholarship Programme, with more than 50 opportunities supported by Ireland’s leading education establishments. This year, for the first time, the programme also will include virtual options, improving accessibility for women across any part of Ireland, and for those who work in a more agile way. Additionally, we will continue to work closely with the 30% Club Chapters across the world – where Ireland is recognised as a progressive member.”

**Ends**



Issued by Murray on behalf of 30% Club Ireland.

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### About the 30% Club

The 30% Club is a global campaign supported by Board Chairs and CEOs of medium and large organisations, committed to achieving better gender balance at leadership levels and throughout their organisation, for better business outcomes. Established in 2015, the Irish chapter is supported by the leaders of more than 300 leading Irish businesses and organisations across all business sectors, representing more than 650,000 employees.

### About Matheson

Matheson is an Irish law firm, whose primary focus is on serving the Irish legal needs of internationally focused companies and financial institutions doing business in and from Ireland. Clients include a majority of Fortune 100 companies and it advises leading global technology brands and large asset managers, in addition to more than half of the world's 50 largest banks. Headquartered in Dublin, Matheson also has offices in Cork, London, New York, San Francisco and Palo Alto. The company employs over 860 people across its six offices, including 122 partners and tax principals, and over 560 legal, tax and digital services professionals.