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**PRESS RELEASE:  
LEADING LAWYERS DAVID FRIEDLANDER AND  
PHILIPPA STONE JOIN ADARA PANEL**



*Sydney, Australia  
19 September, 2016*

**For immediate release**

Adara Partners, an innovative corporate advisory business for purpose which launched last year, announced today that David Friedlander, Head of Australian Public M&A at King & Wood Mallesons, and Philippa Stone, Joint Global Head of Capital Markets at Herbert Smith Freehills, have joined some of the most distinguished names in the Australian financial services landscape as Panel Members for the Adara Partners corporate advisory business.

As Adara Panel Members, Friedlander and Stone will provide wise counsel and senior commercial advice to corporate and family clients of Adara, with their time, effort and expertise donated to Adara Partners. 100% of Adara Partners' profits are donated to its international non-profit partner, Adara Development, to directly benefit women and children living in poverty.

Friedlander and Stone will work alongside other senior leaders in the Australian financial services industry as Adara Panel Members, who work for Adara's clients completely outside of their home firms and other professional commitments. The Adara Panel Members are:

- Ilana Atlas
- Catherine Brenner
- Guy Fowler
- David Friedlander
- Graham Goldsmith
- David Gonski AC
- Matthew Grounds
- Peter Hunt AM
- Diccon Loxton
- Peter Mason AM
- Dr Nora Scheinkestel
- Steven Skala AO
- Philippa Stone

Friedlander is consistently ranked as one of Australia's top M&A and capital markets lawyers and was named in the 2016 AFR Best Lawyers, Lawyer of the Year - Corporate Law. David regularly acts for both bidders and targets in takeovers and issuers and underwriters in securities offerings. He has also worked on the defence side of several high-profile shareholder activist campaigns. Friedlander is a member of several key corporate law bodies and a former member of the Australian Takeovers Panel.

Stone is also consistently ranked as one of Australia's top M&A and capital markets lawyers and specialises in equity and hybrid raisings and mergers and acquisitions, including public company M&A, negotiated transactions and privatisation work, and corporate reconstructions for listed companies, as well as corporate governance advice. Stone recently won the 2016 Australian Deal Maker of the Year award at the ALB Australasian Law Awards: it was the 6<sup>th</sup> time Stone had won the award.

Both Stone and Friedlander are consistently viewed as the leading commercial lawyers in the country.

"The Adara Partners model represents innovation of the best kind in the financial services industry", said Philippa Stone. "I am delighted to be part of the Adara Panel, knowing that the work we do will not only help Adara's clients, but will also directly benefit people living in poverty in the developing world".

"I am extremely proud to be part of the Adara Panel, and am very much looking forward to working with the Panel to help clients and at the same time 'give back' to benefit women and children in extreme poverty" said David Friedlander. "This is a model that is world changing, and is being led from Australia by Australians".



Adara Partners is a top-tier corporate advisory firm which brings together some of Australia's most senior leaders in financial services. Working together as Panel Members, they provide independent commercial advice, complex problem solving, mediation services and governance advice to leading Australian companies and families.

Since the launch of Adara Partners in June 2015, Adara Panel Members have undertaken a number of assignments for a range of clients, including advice to an ASX20 company, a private family company, and a fintech company. All profits generated by these transactions are used directly to support and improve the lives of women, children and communities living in poverty in the developing world.

Adara Partners is proud to have been appointed to a number of State and Federal Government panels, including the Commonwealth Department of Finance, Business Advisory Services Panel; the Commonwealth Department of the Treasury; and the Australian Government Department of Human Services. Adara Partners has also pre-qualified for the NSW Government, Office of Finance, Services, and Innovation Performance and Management Services Scheme.

"I am so proud to welcome David and Philippa to the Adara Panel," said Audette Exel AO, founder and chair of the Adara Group. "Their vote of confidence in our model further showcases the willingness and enthusiasm of the Australian financial services industry to use their skills for good at the highest levels, across competitive boundaries. The quality of our Panel represents an unparalleled offering of wise counsel and truly independent advice to corporate Australia and clients. Australia is showcasing to the world the power of business for purpose."

Adara Partners builds on over 18 years of successful work done by the Adara Group, which is internationally recognised as one of the earliest examples of a business-for-purpose and a completely embedded private-sector and non-profit partnership. Since inception, the Adara Group has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in poverty.

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