

Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. In this regard, for reaching financial restrictions have also been introduced with regards to Russia. The regulatory environment regarding such legal restrictions is rapidly changing, reflective of evolving geopolitical environments.

For statistical purposes, there are, however, limited notification requirements regarding transactions involving cross-border monetary transfers. With some exceptions, every corporation or individual residing in Germany must report to the German Central Bank (Deutsche Bundesbank) (i) any payment received from, or made to, a non-resident corporation or individual that exceeds € 12,500 (or the equivalent in a foreign currency) and (ii) in case the sum of claims against, or liabilities payable to, non-resident individuals or corporations exceeds € 5,000,000 (or the equivalent in a foreign currency) in the aggregate at the end of any calendar month. Payments include cash payments made by means of direct debit, checks and bills, remittances denominated in euros and other currencies made through financial institutions, as well as netting and clearing arrangements.

## **E. Taxation**

The following discussion is a summary of certain U.S. and German tax consequences of owning and disposing of the ADSs.

### **German Taxation**

The following discussion addresses certain German tax consequences of acquiring, owning or disposing of the ADSs. With the exception of the subsection "Taxation of Holders Tax Resident in Germany" below, which provides an overview of dividend taxation to holders that are residents of Germany, this discussion applies only to U.S. treaty beneficiaries (defined below) that acquire ADSs.

This discussion is based on domestic German tax laws, including, but not limited to, circulars issued by German tax authorities, which are not binding on the German courts, and the Treaty (defined below). It is based upon tax laws in effect at the time of filing of this report. These laws are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. For example, certain member states of the European Union are considering introducing a financial transaction tax (*Finanztransaktionssteuer*) which, if and when introduced, may also be applicable on sales and/or transfer of ADSs. In addition, in Germany, for example, there are currently ongoing discussions on the raise of the top tax rate, which may also have an effect on the German tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of the ADSs. Furthermore, there are discussion on a retroactive implementation of certain measures of the EU Anti-Tax Avoidance-Directive ("Draft Law"; Council Directives 2016/1164 of 12 July 2016, and 2017/952 of 29 May 2017, "ATAD I and II") with retroactive effect from January 1, 2020. There is no assurance that German tax authorities will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences described in this discussion.

In addition, this discussion is based upon the assumption that each obligation in the deposit agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms. It does not purport to be a comprehensive or exhaustive description of all German tax considerations that may be of relevance in the context of acquiring, owning and disposing of ADSs.

The tax information presented in this report is not a substitute for tax advice. Prospective holders of ADSs should consult their own tax advisors regarding the German tax consequences of the purchase, ownership, disposition, donation or inheritance of ADSs in light of their particular circumstances, including the effect of any state, local, or other foreign or domestic laws or changes in tax law or interpretation. The same applies with respect to the rules governing the refund of any German dividend withholding tax (*Kapitalertragsteuer*) withheld. Only an individual tax consultation can appropriately account for the particular tax situation of each investor.

MorphoSys does not assume any responsibility for withholding tax at source.

### **Taxation of MorphoSys**

MorphoSys' taxable income, whether distributed or retained, is generally subject to corporate income tax (*Körperschaftsteuer*) at a uniform rate of 15% plus the solidarity surcharge (*Solidaritätszuschlag*) of 5.5% thereon, resulting in a total corporate income tax liability of 15.825%.

Dividends (*Gewinnanteile*) and other distributions received by MorphoSys from domestic or foreign corporations are exempt from corporate income tax, inter alia, if MorphoSys held at the beginning of the calendar year at least 10% of the registered share capital (*Grundkapital* or *Stammkapital*) of the distributing corporation which did not deduct the distributions from its own tax base; however, 5% of such revenue is treated as a non-deductible business expense and, as such, is subject to corporate income tax plus the solidarity surcharge. The acquisition of a participation of at least 10% in the course of a calendar year is deemed to have occurred at the beginning of such calendar year for the purpose of this rule. Participations in the share capital of other corporations which MorphoSys holds through a partnership, including co-entrepreneurships (*Mitunternehmerschaften*), are attributable to MorphoSys only on a pro rata basis at its entitlement to the profits of the relevant partnership. Subject to the above-mentioned requirements, 95% of the amount of dividends and other distributions that MorphoSys receives from

corporations are exempt from corporate income tax. The same applies, in general and irrespective of the size of the shareholding, to profits earned by MorphoSys from the sale of shares in another domestic or foreign corporation. Losses incurred from the sale of such shares are not deductible for tax purposes.

In addition, MorphoSys is subject to trade tax (*Gewerbesteuer*) with respect to its taxable trade profit (*Gewerbeertrag*) from its permanent establishments in Germany (*inländische gewerbsteuerliche Betriebsstätten*). Trade tax is generally based on the taxable income as determined for corporate income tax purposes taking into account, however, certain add-backs and deductions.

The trade tax rate depends on the local municipalities in which MorphoSys maintains its permanent establishments. Dividends received from other corporations and capital gains from the sale of shares in other corporations are treated in principle in the same manner for trade tax purposes as for corporate income tax purposes. However, dividends received from domestic and foreign corporations are effectively 95% exempt from trade tax only if MorphoSys held at least 15% of the registered share capital (*Grundkapital* or *Stammkapital*) –in the event of foreign corporations–of the nominal capital (*Nennkapital*) of the distributing corporation at the beginning of the relevant tax assessment period.

Tax-loss carryforwards can be used to fully offset taxable income for corporate income tax and trade tax purposes up to an amount of EUR 1 million. If the taxable profit for the year or taxable profit subject to trade taxation exceeds this threshold, only up to 60% of the amount exceeding the threshold may be offset by tax-loss carryforwards. The remaining 40% is subject to tax (minimum taxation) (*Mindestbesteuerung*). The rules also provide for a tax carryback to the previous year with regard to corporate income tax. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic tax carryback options for corporate income tax purposes were extended for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 and as well for 2022. Unused tax-loss carryforwards may be generally carried forward indefinitely and used in subsequent assessment periods to offset future taxable income in accordance with this rule.

However, unused losses, loss carryforwards and interest carryforwards are fully forfeited in full if within five years more than 50% of the subscribed capital, membership interests, equity interests or voting rights of MorphoSys are transferred, whether directly or indirectly, to an acquiring party or affiliated individuals/entities, or a similar change of ownership occurs (harmful acquisition) (*schädlicher Beteiligungserwerb*). A group of acquirers with aligned interests is also considered to be an acquiring party for these purposes. In addition, any current year losses incurred prior to the acquisition will not be deductible. A capital increase shall be deemed as equivalent to a transfer of the subscribed capital to the extent that it causes a change of the interest ratio in the capital of the corporation. By the decision dated August 29, 2017, the Lower Tax Court of Hamburg (Finanzgericht Hamburg) submitted to the German Federal Constitutional Court the question as to whether the change of ownership rule stipulating a full forfeiture of unused losses, loss carryforwards and interest carryforwards is unconstitutional. Unused losses, loss carryforwards, and interest carryforwards are not forfeited (i) in the event of certain intra-group transactions, (ii) or to the extent that they are covered at the time of the harmful acquisition by certain built-in gains (*stille Reserven*) which are subject to tax in Germany. Alternatively to (i) and (ii), MorphoSys may, under certain requirements, opt for the continuity of business exemption (*Fortführungsgebundener Verlustvortrag*) to preserve unused losses, loss carryforwards and interest carryforwards.

## **German Taxation of ADS Holders**

### **General**

Based on the circular issued by the German Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF-Schreiben), dated May 24, 2013, reference number IV C 1 – S 2204/12/10003, as amended by the circular dated December 18, 2018 (reference number IV C 1 – S 2204/12/10003), in respect of the taxation of American Depositary Receipts, or ADRs, on domestic shares, or the ADR Tax Circular, for German tax purposes, the ADSs should, in light of the ADR Tax Circular, represent a beneficial ownership interest in the underlying shares of MorphoSys and qualify as ADRs for the purpose of the ADR Tax Circular. If the ADSs qualify as ADRs under the ADR Tax Circular, dividends would accordingly be attributable to holders of the ADSs for German tax purposes, and not to the legal owner of the ordinary shares (i.e., the financial institution on behalf of which the ordinary shares are stored at a domestic depository for the ADS holders). Furthermore, holders of the ADSs should be treated as beneficial owners of the capital of MorphoSys with respect to capital gains. However, investors should note that circulars published by the German tax authorities (including the ADR Tax Circular) are not binding on German courts, and it is unclear whether a German court would follow the ADR Tax Circular in determining the German tax treatment of the ADSs. For the purpose of this German tax section, it is assumed that the ADSs qualify as ADRs within the meaning of the ADR Tax Circular.

### **Taxation of Holders Not Tax Resident in Germany**

The following discussion describes the material German tax consequences for a holder that is a U.S. treaty beneficiary of acquiring, owning and disposing of the ADSs. For purposes of this discussion, a “U.S. treaty beneficiary” is a resident of the United States for purposes of the Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and United States of America for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital as of June 4, 2008 (*Abkommen zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika zur Vermeidung*

der Doppelbesteuerung und zur Verhinderung der Steuerverkürzung auf dem Gebiet der Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Vermögen und einiger anderer Steuern in der Fassung vom 4. Juni 2008), hereinafter referred to as the "Treaty", who is fully eligible for benefits under the Treaty.

A holder will be a U.S. treaty beneficiary entitled to full Treaty benefits in respect of the ADSs if it is, inter alia:

- the beneficial owner of the ADSs (and the dividends paid with respect thereto);
- a U.S. holder;
- not also a resident of Germany for German tax purposes; and
- not subject to the limitation on benefits (i.e., anti-treaty shopping) article of the Treaty that applies in limited circumstances.

Special rules apply to pension funds and certain other tax-exempt investors.

This discussion does not address the treatment of ADSs that are (i) held in connection with a permanent establishment or fixed base through which a U.S. treaty beneficiary carries on business or performs personal services in Germany or (ii) part of business assets for which a permanent representative in Germany has been appointed.

#### **General Rules for the Taxation of Holders Not Tax Resident in Germany**

Non-German resident holders of ADSs are subject to German taxation with respect to German sourced income (*beschränkte Steuerpflicht*). According to the ADS Tax Circular, income from the shares should be attributed to the holder of the ADSs for German tax purposes. As a consequence, income from the ADSs should be treated as German source income.

The full amount of a dividend distributed by MorphoSys to a non-German resident holder which does not maintain a permanent establishment or other taxable presence in Germany is subject to (final) German withholding tax at an aggregate rate of 26.375%. German withholding tax is withheld and remitted to the German tax authorities by the disbursing agent (i.e., the German credit institution, financial services institution, securities trading enterprise or securities trading bank (each as defined in the German Banking Act (*Kreditwesengesetz*) and in each case including a German branch of a foreign enterprise, but excluding a foreign branch of a German enterprise)) that holds or administers the underlying shares in custody and disburses or credits the dividend income from the underlying shares or disburses or credits the dividend income from the underlying shares on delivery of the dividend coupons or disburses such dividend income to a foreign agent or the central securities depository (*Wertpapiersammelbank*) in terms of the German Depository Act (*Depotgesetz*) holding the underlying shares in a collective deposit, if such central securities depository disburses the dividend income from the underlying shares to a foreign agent, regardless of whether a holder must report the dividend for tax purposes and regardless of whether or not a holder is a resident of Germany.

Pursuant to the Treaty, the German withholding tax may not exceed 15% of the gross amount of the dividends received by U.S. treaty beneficiaries. The excess of the total withholding tax, including the solidarity surcharge, over the maximum rate of withholding tax permitted by the Treaty is refunded to U.S. treaty beneficiaries upon application. For example, for a declared dividend of 100, a U.S. treaty beneficiary initially receives 73.625 (100 minus the 26.375% withholding tax including solidarity surcharge). The U.S. treaty beneficiary is entitled to a partial refund from the German tax authorities in the amount of 11.375% of the gross dividend (of 100). As a result, the U.S. treaty beneficiary ultimately receives a total of 85 (85% of the declared dividend) following the refund of the excess withholding. However, investors should note that it is unclear how the German tax authorities will apply the refund process to dividends on the ADSs with respect to non-German resident holders of the ADSs. Further, such refund is subject to the German anti-avoidance treaty shopping rule (as described below in the section "Withholding Tax Refund for U.S. Treaty Beneficiaries").

#### **German Taxation of Capital Gains of the U.S. Treaty Beneficiaries of the ADSs**

The capital gains from the disposition of the ADSs realized by a non-German resident holder which does not maintain a permanent establishment or other taxable presence in Germany would be treated as German source income and be subject to German tax if such holder at any time during the five years preceding the disposition, directly or indirectly, owned 1% or more of MorphoSys' share capital, irrespective of whether through the ADSs or shares of MorphoSys. If such holder had acquired the ADSs without consideration, the previous owner's holding period and quota would be taken into account.

Pursuant to the Treaty, U.S. treaty beneficiaries are not subject to German tax even under the circumstances described in the preceding paragraph and therefore should not be taxed on capital gains from the disposition of the ADSs.

German statutory law requires the disbursing agent to levy withholding tax on capital gains from the sale of ADSs or other securities held in a custodial account in Germany. With regard to the German taxation of capital gains, disbursing agent means a German credit institution, a financial services institution, a securities trading enterprise or a securities trading bank (each as

defined in the German Banking Act and, in each case including a German branch of a foreign enterprise, but excluding a foreign branch of a German enterprise) that holds the ADSs in custody or administers the ADSs for the investor or conducts sales or other dispositions and disburses or credits the income from the ADSs to the holder of the ADSs. The German statutory law does not explicitly condition the obligation to withhold taxes on capital gains being subject to taxation in Germany under German statutory law or on an applicable income tax treaty permitting Germany to tax such capital gains.

However, a circular issued by the German Federal Ministry of Finance, dated January 18, 2016, reference number IV C 1-S2252/08/10004 :017, amended by circular dated September 16, 2019, reference number IV C 1-S2252/08/10004 :027, provides that taxes need not be withheld when the holder of the custody account is not a resident of Germany for tax purposes and the income is not subject to German taxation. The circular further states that there is no obligation to withhold such tax even if the non-resident holder owns 1% or more of the share capital of a German company. While circulars issued by the German Federal Ministry of Finance are only binding on the German tax authorities but not on the German courts, in practice, the disbursing agents nevertheless typically rely on guidance contained in such circulars. Therefore, a disbursing agent would only withhold tax at 26.375% on capital gains derived by a U.S. treaty beneficiary from the sale of ADSs held in a custodial account in Germany in the event that the disbursing agent did not follow the above-mentioned guidance. In this case, the U.S. treaty beneficiary may be entitled to claim a refund of the withholding tax from the German tax authorities under the Treaty, as described below in the section “Withholding Tax Refund for U.S. Treaty Beneficiaries”.

#### **Withholding Tax Refund for U.S. Treaty Beneficiaries**

U.S. treaty beneficiaries are generally eligible for treaty benefits under the Treaty, as described above in Section “Taxation of Holders Not Tax Resident in Germany”. Accordingly, U.S. treaty beneficiaries are in general entitled to claim a refund of the portion of the otherwise applicable 26.375% German withholding tax (corporate income tax including solidarity surcharge) on dividends that exceeds the applicable Treaty rate. However, such refund is only possible, provided that pursuant to special rules on the restriction of withholding tax credit, the following three cumulative requirements are met: (i) the shareholder must qualify as beneficial owner of the ADSs for an uninterrupted minimum holding period of 45 days within a period starting 45 days prior to and ending 45 days after the due date of the dividends, (ii) the shareholder has to bear at least 70% of the change in value risk related to the ADSs during the minimum holding period as described under (i) of this paragraph and has not entered into (acting by itself or through a related party) hedging transactions which lower the change in value risk by more than 30%, and (iii) the shareholder must not be obliged to fully or largely compensate directly or indirectly the dividends to third-parties. If these requirements are not met, then for a shareholder not being a tax-resident in Germany who applied for a full or partial refund of the withholding tax pursuant to a double taxation treaty, no refund is available. This restriction generally does only apply, if (i) the tax underlying the refund application is below a tax rate of 15% based on the gross amount of the dividends or capital gains and (ii) the shareholder does not directly own 10% or more in the shares of the company and is subject to income taxes in its state of residence, without being tax exempt.

In general, as previously discussed, investors should note that it is unclear how the German tax administration will apply the refund process to dividends on the ADSs. Further, such refund is subject to the German anti-avoidance treaty shopping rule. Generally, this rule requires that the U.S. treaty beneficiary (in case it is a non-German resident company) maintains its own administrative substance and conducts its own business activities. In particular, a foreign company has no right to a full or partial refund to the extent persons holding ownership interests in MorphoSys would not be entitled to the refund if they derived the income directly and the gross income realized by the foreign company is not caused by the business activities of the foreign company, and there are either no economic or other considerable reasons for the interposition of the foreign company, or the foreign company does not participate in general commerce by means of a business organization with resources appropriate to its business purpose. However, this shall not apply if the foreign company’s principal class of stock is regularly traded in substantial volume on a recognized stock exchange, or if the foreign company is subject to the provisions of the German Investment Tax Act (Investmentsteuergesetz). Whether or not and to which extent the anti-avoidance treaty shopping rule applies, has to be analyzed on a case-by-case basis taking into account all relevant tests. In addition, the interpretation of these tests is disputed and to date there have been no published decisions from the German Federal Finance Court in this regard.

Due to the legal structure of the ADSs, only limited guidance from the German tax authorities exists on the practical application of this procedure with respect to the ADSs.

#### **Taxation of Holders Tax Resident in Germany**

This subsection provides an overview of dividend taxation with regard to the general principles applicable to MorphoSys’ holders that are tax resident in Germany. A holder is a German tax resident if, in case of an individual, he or she maintains a domicile (*Wohnsitz*) or a usual residence (*gewöhnlicher Aufenthalt*) in Germany or if, in case of a corporation, it has its place of management (*Geschäftsleitung*) or registered office (*Sitz*) in Germany.

The German dividend and capital gains taxation rules applicable to German tax residents require a distinction between ADSs held as private assets (*Privatvermögen*) and ADSs held as business assets (*Betriebsvermögen*).

#### **ADSs as Private Assets (*Privatvermögen*)**

If the ADSs are held as private assets by a German tax resident, dividends and capital gains are taxed as investment income and are principally subject to 25% German flat income tax on capital income (*Abgeltungsteuer*) (plus a 5.5% solidarity surcharge (*Solidaritätszuschlag*) thereon, resulting in an aggregate rate of 26.375%), which is levied in the form of withholding tax (*Kapitalertragsteuer*). In other words, once deducted, the shareholder's income tax liability on the dividends will be settled.

Shareholders may apply to have their capital investment income assessed in accordance with the general rules and with an individual's personal income tax rate if this would result in a lower tax burden in which case actually incurred expenses are not deductible. The holder would be taxed on gross personal investment income (including dividends or gains with respect to ADSs), less the saver's allowance of €801 for an individual or €1,602 for a married couple and a registered civil union (*eingetragene Lebenspartnerschaft*) filing taxes jointly. The deduction of expenses related to the investment income (including dividends or gains with respect to ADSs) is generally not possible for private investors.

Losses resulting from the disposal of ADSs can only be offset by capital gains from the sale of any shares (*Aktien*) and other ADSs. If, however, a holder directly or indirectly held at least 1% of the share capital of the company at any time during the five years preceding the sale, 60% of any capital gains resulting from the sale are taxable at the holder's personal income tax rate (plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon). Conversely, 60% of any capital losses are recognized for tax purposes.

Since 2021, the basis for the calculation of the solidarity surcharge (*Solidaritätszuschlag*) has been reduced for certain individual persons being subject to tax assessments (other than withholding taxes), and in certain cases, the solidarity surcharge has been abolished. However, the abolition or reduction of the solidarity surcharge is not applicable to corporations. In addition, the abolition or reduction of the solidarity surcharge will not affect withholding taxes. Solidarity surcharge will still be levied at 5.5% on the full withholding tax amount and withheld accordingly. There will not be any separate refund of such withheld solidarity surcharge (regardless of the aforementioned exemption limits) in case the withholding tax cannot be refunded either.

Church tax generally has to be withheld, if applicable, based on an automatic data access procedure, unless the shareholder has filed a blocking notice (*Sperrvermerk*) with the Federal Central Tax Office. Where church tax is not levied by way of withholding, it is determined by means of income tax assessment.

#### **ADSs as Business Assets (*Betriebsvermögen*)**

In case the ADSs are held as business assets, the taxation depends on the legal form of the holder (i.e., whether the holder is a corporation or an individual). Irrespective of the legal form of the holder, dividends are subject to the aggregate withholding tax rate of 26.375%. The withholding tax is credited against the respective holder's income tax liability, provided that pursuant to special rules on the restriction of withholding tax credit, the following three cumulative requirements are met: (i) the shareholder must qualify as beneficial owner of the ADSs for an uninterrupted minimum holding period of 45 days occurring within a period starting 45 days prior to and ending 45 days after the due date of the dividends, (ii) the shareholder has to bear at least 70% of the change in value risk related to the ADSs during the minimum holding period as described under (i) of this paragraph and has not entered into (acting by itself or through a related party) hedging transactions which lower the change in value risk for more than 30%, and (iii) the shareholder must not be obliged to fully or largely compensate directly or indirectly the dividends to third-parties. If these requirements are not met, three-fifths of the withholding tax imposed on the dividends must not be credited against the shareholder's (corporate) income tax liability, but may, upon application, be deducted from the shareholder's tax base for the relevant tax assessment period. Such requirements also apply to ADSs, which lead to domestic income in Germany and which are held by a non-German depository bank. A shareholder that is generally subject to German income tax or corporate income tax and that has received gross dividends without any deduction of withholding tax due to a tax exemption without qualifying for a full tax credit under the aforementioned requirements has to notify the competent local tax office accordingly and has to make a payment in the amount of the omitted withholding tax deduction. The special rules on the restriction of withholding tax credit do not apply to a shareholder whose overall dividend earnings within an assessment period do not exceed €20,000 or that has been the beneficial owner of the ADSs in the Company for at least one uninterrupted year upon receipt of the dividends.

To the extent the amount withheld exceeds the income tax liability, the withholding tax will be refunded, provided that certain requirements are met (including the aforementioned requirements).

Special rules apply to credit institutions (*Kreditinstitute*), financial services institutions (*Finanzdienstleistungsinstitute*), financial enterprises (*Finanzunternehmen*), life insurance and health insurance companies, and pension funds.

With regard to holders in the legal form of a corporation, dividends and capital gains are in general 95% tax exempt from corporate income tax (including solidarity surcharge), inter alia, if the shareholder held at least 10% of the registered share

capital (*Grundkapital* oder *Stammkapital*) of MorphoSys at the beginning of the calendar year. The remaining 5% is treated as non-deductible business expense and, as such, is subject to corporate income tax (including solidarity surcharge). The acquisition of a participation of at least 10% in the course of a calendar year is deemed to have occurred at the beginning of such calendar year for the purpose of this rule. Participations in the share capital of other corporations which MorphoSys holds through a partnership, including co-entrepreneurships (*Mitunternehmerschaften*), are attributable to MorphoSys only on a pro rata basis at the ratio of its entitlement to the profits of the relevant partnership. Moreover, actual business expenses incurred to generate the dividends may be deducted.

However, the amount of any dividends after deducting business expenses related to the dividends is subject to the trade tax, unless the corporation held at least 15% of MorphoSys' registered share capital at the beginning of the relevant tax assessment period. In the latter case, the aforementioned exemption of 95% of the dividend income also applies for trade tax purposes. Losses from the sale of ADSs are generally not tax deductible for corporate income tax and trade tax purposes.

With regard to individuals holding ADSs as business assets, 60% of dividends and capital gains are taxed at the individual's personal income tax rate (plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon). Correspondingly, only 60% of business expenses related to the dividends and capital gains as well as losses from the sale of ADSs are principally deductible for income tax purposes.

#### **German Inheritance and Gift Tax (*Erbschaft- und Schenkungsteuer*)**

The transfer of ADSs to another person by inheritance or gift should be generally subject to German inheritance and gift tax only if:

- (1) the decedent or donor or heir, beneficiary or other transferee maintained his or her domicile or a usual residence in Germany or had its place of management or registered office in Germany at the time of the transfer, or is a German citizen who has spent no more than five consecutive years outside of Germany without maintaining a domicile in Germany or is a German citizen who serves for a German entity established under public law and is remunerated for his or her service from German public funds (including family members who form part of such person's household, if they are German citizens) and is only subject to estate or inheritance tax in his or her country of domicile or usual residence with respect to assets located in such country (special rules apply to certain former German citizens who neither maintain a domicile nor have their usual residence in Germany);
- (2) at the time of the transfer, the ADSs are held by the decedent or donor as business assets forming part of a permanent establishment in Germany or for which a permanent representative in Germany has been appointed; or
- (3) the ADSs subject to such transfer form part of a portfolio that represents at the time of the transfer 10% or more of the registered share capital of the company and that has been held directly or indirectly by the decedent or donor, either alone or together with related persons.

The Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on inheritances and gifts as of December 21, 2000 (*Abkommen zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika zur Vermeidung der Doppelbesteuerung auf dem Gebiet der Nachlass-, Erbschaft- und Schenkungssteuern in der Fassung vom 21. Dezember 2000*), hereinafter referred to as the "United States-Germany Inheritance and Gifts Tax Treaty", provides that the German inheritance tax or gift tax can, with certain restrictions, only be levied in the cases of (1) and (2) above. Special provisions apply to certain German citizens living outside of Germany and former German citizens.

#### **Other Taxes**

No German transfer tax, value-added tax, stamp duty or similar taxes are assessed on dividend payments neither on the purchase, sale or other transfer of ADSs.

#### **U.S. Taxation**

The following discussion is a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations to U.S. holders (as defined below) of owning and disposing of the ADSs.

The information provided below is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, Treasury Regulations, the Treaty, Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, rulings and pronouncements, and judicial decisions all as now in effect and all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. There can be no assurance that the IRS or a court will not take a contrary position with respect to any U.S. federal income tax considerations described below.

This discussion does not provide a complete analysis of all potential U.S. tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to purchase ADSs by any particular investor. In particular, this discussion does not address tax considerations applicable to a

U.S. holder (as defined in “–U.S. Taxation” below) that may be subject to special tax rules, including, without limitation, dealers or traders in securities, notional principal contracts or currencies, financial institutions, insurance companies, U.S. expatriates and inverted companies, certain stapled companies, tax-exempt organizations, tax-deferred or other retirement accounts, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, a person that holds ADSs as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion or other integrated transaction for tax purposes, a person that purchases or sells ADSs as part of a wash sale for tax purposes, a person whose functional currency for tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar, a person who does not hold the ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes, a person who acquired the ADSs pursuant to the exercise of any employee stock option or otherwise as compensation, a person subject to special tax accounting rules as a result of any item of gross income with respect to the ADSs being taken into account in an applicable financial statement; or a person that owns or is deemed to own 10% or more of the company’s shares by vote or value. In addition, the summary does not address the 3.8% Medicare tax imposed on certain net investment income, the alternative minimum tax or any aspect of U.S. federal estate and gift tax laws or any foreign, state or local laws that may be applicable to a holder.

For purposes of this summary, a “U.S. holder” is a beneficial owner of ADSs that for U.S. federal income tax purposes is (1) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States, (2) a corporation, or an entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state of the United States, including the District of Columbia, (3) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (4) a trust (i) the administration of which is subject to the primary supervision of a U.S. court and which has one or more U.S. persons who have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (ii) that has otherwise elected to be treated as a U.S. person under the applicable regulations.

If a partnership (including an entity or arrangement, domestic or foreign, treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds ADSs, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A holder of ADSs that is a partnership, and partners in such partnership, should consult their own tax advisors about the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning and disposing of the ADSs.

In general, a holder of ADSs should be treated as the owner of our ordinary shares for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Holders should consult their own tax advisors concerning the tax consequences of converting ADSs to ordinary shares.

*Each prospective holder of ADSs should consult its own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal, state and local or other tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of the company’s ADSs in light of their particular circumstances. U.S. holders should also review the discussion under “–German Taxation” for the German tax consequences to a U.S. holder of the ownership of the ADSs.*

## **Distributions**

Subject to the discussion below under “PFIC Rules,” the gross amount of any distribution that is actually or constructively received by a U.S. holder with respect to its ADSs without reduction for any German taxes withheld will be a dividend to the extent the amount of such distribution is paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. To the extent the amount of such distribution exceeds our current or accumulated earnings and profits, such amount will be treated first as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of such U.S. holder’s adjusted tax basis in its ADSs, and to the extent the amount of such distribution exceeds such adjusted tax basis, will be treated as capital gain from the sale of the ADSs. Because we do not intend to determine our earnings and profits on the basis of U.S. federal income tax principles, any distribution we pay will generally be reported as dividend income for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If you are a non-corporate U.S. holder, dividends paid to you that constitute “qualified dividend income” (discussed below) should be taxable to you at a preferential rate (rather than the higher rates of tax generally applicable to items of ordinary income).

Dividends paid to a non-corporate U.S. holder generally will constitute qualified dividend income if (i) we are a “qualified foreign corporation” (discussed below), (ii) you are not under any obligation to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property, and (iii) you hold our ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and your risk of loss with respect to the ADSs is not otherwise diminished. A non-U.S. corporation (other than a corporation that is classified as a PFIC for the taxable year in which the dividend is paid or the preceding taxable year) generally will be considered to be a qualified foreign corporation (i) if it is eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive tax treaty with the United States which the Secretary of Treasury of the United States determines is satisfactory for purposes of this provision and which includes an exchange of information provision, or (ii) with respect to any dividend it pays on ADSs that are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. We are incorporated under the laws of Germany, and we believe that we qualify as a resident of Germany for purposes of, and are eligible for the benefits of, the Treaty, although there can be no assurance in this regard. Further, the IRS has determined that the Treaty is satisfactory for purposes of the qualified dividend rules and that it includes an exchange-of-information program. In addition, our ADSs are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market, which is an established securities market in the United States, and we expect

the ADSs to be readily tradable on the Nasdaq Global Market. However, there can be no assurance that the ADSs will be considered readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. Accordingly, subject to the discussion below with respect to the PFIC rules, any dividends paid on our ADS to non-corporate U.S. holders will generally be expected to be “qualified dividend income.” If we are a PFIC (as discussed below under “PFIC Rules”) during the year of a distribution or the year preceding a distribution, such distributions paid by us with respect to our ADSs will not be eligible for the preferential income tax rate. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the taxation of distributions under these rules.

Dividends paid on our ADSs will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally available to corporate U.S. holders.

Subject to applicable limitations, non-refundable German taxes withheld from dividends on the ADSs can be generally claimed as a credit against the U.S. holder’s U.S. federal income tax liability. For purposes of the U.S. foreign tax credit rules, dividends with respect to our ADSs should constitute income from sources outside of the United States and should generally be passive income for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit allowable to the U.S. holder. The amount of the qualified dividend income, if any, paid to a U.S. holder that is subject to the reduced dividend income tax rate and that is taken into account for purposes of calculating the U.S. holder’s U.S. foreign tax credit limitation must be reduced by the rate differential portion of the dividend. In lieu of claiming a foreign tax credit, U.S. holders may, at their election, deduct foreign taxes, including any German income tax, in computing their taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits applies to all foreign taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year. The rules applicable to foreign tax credits are complex. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the implications of the foreign tax credit provisions for them, in light of their particular situation.

The gross amount of any dividend paid in foreign currency will be included in the gross income of a U.S. holder in an amount equal to the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date the dividend distribution is includable in the U.S. holder’s income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. If the foreign currency is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt by the depository, a U.S. holder generally should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend. If the foreign currency received is not converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. holder will have a basis in the foreign currency equal to its U.S. dollar value on the date of receipt. Any gain or loss on a subsequent conversion or other disposition of the foreign currency will be treated as ordinary income or loss, and will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

#### **Sales or Other Taxable Dispositions**

A U.S. holder will generally recognize a gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the sale or other disposition of ADSs in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount realized from such sale or other disposition and the U.S. holder’s tax basis in such ADSs. Subject to the discussion below under “PFIC Rules,” such gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss. Capital gains of individuals and certain other non-corporate U.S. holders recognized on the sale or other disposition of ADSs held for more than one year are generally eligible for a reduced rate of taxation. The gain or loss will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

A U.S. holder’s adjusted tax basis in the ADSs will generally equal the U.S. dollar value of the purchase price for the ADSs, based on the prevailing exchange rate on the date of such purchase. The amount realized on a disposition of the ADSs in exchange for foreign currency, will generally equal the U.S. dollar value of such currency translated at the spot exchange rate in effect on the date of the disposition. If, however, the ADSs are treated as traded on an “established securities market” for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a cash basis U.S. holder (or, if it elects, an accrual basis U.S. holder) will determine the U.S. dollar value of the purchase price for the ADSs or the amount realized on a disposition of the ADSs in exchange for non-U.S. currency, as the case may be, by translating the amount paid or received at the spot exchange rate in effect on the settlement date of the purchase or disposition, as the case may be. Any such election by an accrual basis U.S. holder must be applied consistently from year to year and cannot be changed without the consent of the IRS. A U.S. holder’s tax basis in any non-U.S. currency received on a disposition of the ADSs will generally equal the U.S. dollar value of such currency on the date of receipt. Any gain or loss realized by a U.S. holder on a subsequent conversion or other disposition of the non-U.S. dollar currency will generally be foreign currency gain or loss and treated as U.S. source ordinary income or loss. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the sale or other taxable disposition of the ADSs under their particular circumstances.

#### **PFIC Rules**

A non-U.S. corporation will be classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes for any taxable year, if either (i) 75% or more of its gross income for such year consists of certain types of “passive”



income or (ii) 50% or more of the value of its assets (determined on the basis of a quarterly average) during such year produce or are held for the production of passive income. Passive income generally includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents, annuities, net gains from the sale or exchange of property producing such income and net foreign currency gains. In addition, a non-U.S. corporation will be treated as owning its proportionate share of the assets and earning its proportionate share of the income of any other corporation in which it owns, directly or indirectly, more than 25% (by value) of the stock.

Based on the current composition of our income and valuation of our assets, we believe it is possible that we could be treated as a PFIC for the 2022 taxable year, and we may also be treated as a PFIC in any future taxable year. However, a separate determination must be made after the close of each taxable year as to whether we are a PFIC for that year. As a result, our PFIC status may change. In particular, the total value of our assets for purposes of the asset test generally will be calculated taking into account the market price of our ADSs or ordinary shares, which may fluctuate considerably. Fluctuations in the market price of the ADSs and ordinary shares may result in our being a PFIC for any taxable year. Even if we determine that we are not a PFIC for a taxable year, there can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with our conclusion and that the IRS would not successfully challenge our position.

If we are classified as a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. holder holds ADSs, unless the U.S. holder makes a “mark-to-market” election or a “qualified electing fund” election (as described below), the U.S. holder will generally be subject to special tax rules that have a generally penalizing effect, regardless of whether we remain a PFIC, on (i) any excess distribution that we make to the U.S. holder (which generally means any distribution paid during a taxable year to a U.S. holder that is greater than 125% of the average annual distributions paid in the three preceding taxable years or, if shorter, the U.S. holder’s holding period for its ADSs), and (ii) any gain realized on the sale or other disposition of its ADSs.

If we are a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. holder holds ADSs and any of our subsidiaries is also a PFIC, such U.S. holder will be treated as owning a proportionate amount (by value) of the shares of the lower-tier PFIC. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the PFIC rules to any of our subsidiaries.

If we were to be classified as a PFIC, a U.S. holder may make a mark-to-market election with respect to its ADSs provided the ADSs are treated as regularly traded on a qualified exchange or other market as defined in applicable Treasury Regulations. The Nasdaq Stock Market is a qualified exchange for this purpose and, consequently, if the ADSs are regularly traded, the mark-to-market election will be available to a U.S. holder if we are classified as a PFIC. Because, as a technical matter, a mark-to-market election cannot be made for any lower-tier PFICs that we may own, however, a U.S. holder may continue to be subject to the PFIC rules with respect to such holder’s indirect interest in any investments held by us that are treated as an equity interest in a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential availability and consequences of a mark-to-market election in case we are classified as a PFIC in any taxable year.

[We do not intend to make available the information necessary for a U.S. holder to make a “qualified electing fund” election.] If a U.S. holder makes an effective qualified electing fund election, the U.S. holder will be required to include in gross income each year, whether or not we make distributions, as capital gains, such U.S. holder’s pro rata share of our net capital gains and, as ordinary income, such U.S. holder’s pro rata share of our earnings in excess of our net capital gains. However, a U.S. holder can only make a qualified electing fund election with respect to ADSs of in a PFIC if such company agrees to furnish such U.S. holder with certain tax information annually. We cannot offer any assurance that we will make available the information necessary for a U.S. holder to make a “qualified electing fund” election.

If a U.S. holder holds ADSs in any year in which we are treated as a PFIC with respect to such U.S. holder, such U.S. holder will generally be required to file IRS Form 8621 and such other forms as may be required by the U.S. Treasury Department.

U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the application of the PFIC rules to their investment in our ADSs and the elections discussed above.

#### **Information with Respect to Foreign Financial Assets**

Owners of “specified foreign financial assets” with an aggregate value in excess of US\$50,000 (and in some circumstances, a higher threshold) may be required to file IRS Form 8938 (Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets) with respect to such assets on their tax returns. “Specified foreign financial assets” may include financial accounts maintained by foreign financial institutions, as well as any of the following, if they are held for investment and not held in accounts maintained by financial institutions: (i) stocks and securities issued by non-U.S. persons, (ii) financial instruments and contracts held for investment that have non-U.S. issuers or counterparties, and (iii) interests in foreign entities. U.S. holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of these rules to their ownership of the ADSs.

#### **F. Dividends and Paying Agents**

Not applicable.