



**Hermann J. Merkens**

Chairman of the Management Board

Hermann J. Merkens has been Member of the Management Board since 2003 and has been appointed as Chairman of the Management Board in September 2015. He is responsible for the strategic development as well as the Investor Relations, HR, Legal, Audit and Corporate Communications divisions, among others.

Hermann J. Merkens holds positions in various associations and institutions such as the Association of German Banks as Member of the Management Board and member of the Committee for "Banks directly supervised by the ECB".

Already in 1999, he joined Aareal Bank AG (back then DePfa Bank AG) as Head of Division Commercial Property Financing Germany, and was appointed Deputy Member of the Management Board in 2001. He became Deputy Chairman of the Management Board in 2014. Before, Hermann J Merkens was Director with general authority at Deutsche Interhotel Holding GmbH & Co. KG. His professional career started in 1985 at Deutsche Bank Group.

He was born in 1966 in Aachen, Germany, and graduated from Berlin School of Economics with a degree in business administration.