

## INGKA CENTRES' NEW MEETING PLACES PROVE POPULAR AS GLOBAL GROWTH CONTINUES

- *Successful launch of two new meeting places in China and a forthcoming development in India*
- *15.7 per cent rise in tenant sales to €6.6 billion unlocked through ongoing investment in experience-led retail and leisure destinations*
- *Almost 1,000 new store openings in portfolio*
- *Ingka Centres continues its drive to become more sustainable, with increases in the use of renewable energy across its meeting places*

**(01 November 2021)** - The opening of two new destinations in China and a strong recovery across Ingka Centres' existing meeting places helped to deliver almost 16 per cent rise in sales for tenants and saw footfall reach 372 million. Tenant sales reached €6.6bn during this year with a YOY increase of 15.7% at constant exchange rates<sup>1</sup>. Ingka Centres' first mixed-use meeting place, which includes work-live units in Changsha, China, has attracted two million visitors in its first two months of operation since opening in summer 2021. An exciting land acquisition in India and the purchase of 6X6 building in San Francisco, the US, and Aura shopping centre in Toronto, Canada, sets the start of Ingka Centres' business growth in these new markets.

Ingka Centres' transformation from traditional shopping centres into retail-led, mixed-use 'meeting places' - part of a €5bn global investment strategy - continues to accelerate, despite the economic and public health challenges posed by Covid-19.

Ongoing investments to improve the customer experience saw the global developer and operator's 47 meeting places achieve €6.6 billion in collective sales, with visitors enjoying the ease of retail and leisure destinations close to public transport and within the heart of local communities.

Almost 1,000 new stores, which includes renowned international brands such as Bershka, Decathlon, H&M, Uniqlo, Sephora, Starbucks and Zara, and local shops opened across the portfolio and raised the attractiveness of Ingka Centres' meeting places to its visitors. Other highlights of this year include openings of new leisure facilities for families such as "Smurf Land" in Ametzondo Shopping, France, and "Kids Town" in Livat Beijing, China, as well as a new phygital Hoff store in MEGA Belaya Dacha and Eco House in MEGA Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. Global occupancy stays at 94 percent.

Ingka Centres continues developing services to create a seamless omnichannel experience for modern visitors, such as the opening of the Underline online marketplace in Russia and WeChat program for Livat visitors in China.

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<sup>1</sup> The full FY21 year-end financial results for Ingka Group, consisting of its three business areas: IKEA Retail, Ingka Centres and Ingka Investments, will be released on November 30, 2021.

**Ingka Centres' Managing Director, Cindy Andersen, commented:** *"There's no doubt the past year has been tough for all of us, professionally as well as personally. I'm happy to see how together with our colleagues and partners we are moving with a good speed, delivering rewarding experiences for our visitors and continuing to support communities. Our experiences in Changsha and Fuzhou, and in our meeting places across the world, show very clearly that people around the world continue to value the opportunity to physically meet, shop and spend time together in inspiring spaces. As lockdown restrictions ease, and the wider reinvention of retail continues, we will continue to focus on developing meeting places that offer people great experiences – physically and digitally – and contribute positively to communities and our planet.*

As part of Ingka Group, Ingka Centres is continuing its efforts to help limit global warming to 1.5°C by making its meeting places more sustainable. This includes a reduction of energy related emissions by 80 percent by 2030, alongside the organization's commitment to phase out the use of coal and oil-based fuel by retrofitting its meeting places with 100 per cent renewable heating and cooling systems. Over the past five years, Ingka Centres has continued to accelerate its transition towards a greener future, reducing its energy emissions by 19 percent. During the same period, the company's use of renewable energy has increased to 28 percent, while its use of renewable electricity across its meeting places has more than doubled to 42 percent.

**Andersen concludes:**

*"We're accelerating our journey to become more sustainable in everything we do. We've already broken the link between our business growth and an increase in our climate footprint. But much more needs to be done. It's only by joining forces and collectively rethinking our approach as an industry that we'll tackle climate change and take care of the largest meeting place we share - our planet."*

Globally Ingka Centres has many 'people and planet positive' activities to inspire and enable communities to live a more sustainable life. This includes the Love Your Stuff For Longer campaign that offers an alternative view to Black Friday, educational workshops, repair & recycling cafes, waste sorting stations, electric vehicle chargers, and more sustainable offers together with partners.

**ENDS**

**About Ingka Centres**

Ingka Centres is part of the Ingka Group (which also includes IKEA Retail and Ingka Investments). Ingka Centres has more than 40 years of experience in shopping centres and today works with 1,600 brands across its portfolio of 47 shopping centres in 16 markets. Centres locations appear under different trademarks, including MEGA in Russia and LIVAT in China, always anchored by an IKEA store. Ingka Centres hosts and serves more than 370 million visitors each year at its

IKEA anchored meeting places. Ingka Centres creates its meeting places by collaborating with local communities, as well as its tenants and partners, to ensure they are destinations with emotional meaning that add value and build social connections. [www.ingkacentres.com](http://www.ingkacentres.com)

### **About Ingka Group**

With IKEA retail operations on 32 markets, Ingka Group is the largest IKEA retailer and represents about 90% of IKEA retail sales. It is a strategic partner to develop and innovate the IKEA business and help define common IKEA strategies. Ingka Group owns and operates IKEA sales channels under franchise agreements with Inter IKEA Systems B.V. It has three business areas: IKEA Retail, Ingka Investments and Ingka Centres. Read more on [Ingka.com](http://Ingka.com)

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