

MEDIA RELEASE



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World Investor Week 2018: Investor Education and Protection Top the Agenda for IOSCO and its Members

On Sunday, members of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) closed the second annual World Investor Week (WIW) but their investor education and protection initiatives will endure far beyond this week-long global campaign.

From 1 to 7 October, securities regulators, stock exchanges, international organizations, investor associations, educational entities and other stakeholders joined together to promote investor education and protection, from the world's leading financial centres to the most remote corners of the globe. During the week, participants from some 90 countries organized a range of investor-focused activities to drive home the importance of smart investing, particularly in today's online and digital environment.

Ashley Alder, Chair of the IOSCO Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission, said, *“On behalf of the IOSCO Board, I applaud the tremendous dedication and efforts of IOSCO members and their stakeholders which have contributed to the success of WIW 2018 in raising awareness about the importance of investor education, investor protection and financial literacy.”*

Paul Andrews, IOSCO Secretary General, said, *“Global initiatives like this help bring parties together to work towards accomplishing a shared agenda. It is critical to keep this momentum going to help ensure that investors worldwide are better prepared, educated and protected when investing in the financial markets.”*

José Alexandre Vasco, Chair of IOSCO's Committee on Retail Investors, said, *“We thank all WIW participants and supporters, and look forward to reporting on the results of the campaign. The*

enthusiasm and creative initiatives that emerged on all continents will serve as an inspiration for the work in the field for the year to come.”

The dedicated campaign website www.worldinvestorweek.org provides additional information about WIW.

NOTES TO THE EDITORS

About IOSCO

1. IOSCO is the leading international policy forum for securities regulators and is recognized as the global standard setter for securities regulation. The organization's membership regulates more than 95% of the world's securities markets in more than 115 jurisdictions and it continues to expand.
2. The IOSCO Board is the governing and standard-setting body of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), and is made up of 34 securities regulators. Mr. Ashley Alder, the Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) of Hong Kong, is the Chair of the IOSCO Board. The members of the IOSCO Board are the securities regulatory authorities of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands (observer), Ontario, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Quebec, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The Chair of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) and the Chair of IOSCO's Affiliate Members Consultative Committee are also observers.
3. The Growth and Emerging Markets (GEM) Committee is the largest committee within IOSCO, representing close to 80 per cent of the IOSCO membership, including 11 of the G20 members. Mr. Ranjit Ajit Singh, Chairman of the Securities Commission Malaysia and Vice Chair of the IOSCO Board, is the Chair of the GEM Committee. The Committee brings members from growth and emerging markets together and communicates members' views and facilitates their contribution across IOSCO and at other global regulatory discussions. The GEM Committee's strategic priorities are focused, among others, on risks and vulnerabilities assessments, policy and development work affecting emerging markets, and regulatory capacity building.
4. The IOSCO Board approved the establishment of the Committee on Retail Investors (Committee 8) in June 2013. The Committee's primary mandate is to conduct IOSCO's policy work on retail investor education and financial literacy. Its secondary mandate is to advise the IOSCO Board on emerging retail investor protection matters and conduct investor protection policy work as directed by the IOSCO Board. José Alexandre Vasco, Director, Office of Investor Protection and Assistance of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Brazil (CVM), is the Chair of Committee 8. The members of Committee 8 are the securities regulatory authorities of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jersey, Korea,

Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Ontario, Portugal, Quebec, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

5. IOSCO aims through its permanent structures:

- to cooperate in developing, implementing and promoting adherence to internationally recognized and consistent standards of regulation, oversight and enforcement in order to protect investors, maintain fair, efficient and transparent markets, and seek to address systemic risks;
- to enhance investor protection and promote investor confidence in the integrity of securities markets, through strengthened information exchange and cooperation in enforcement against misconduct and in supervision of markets and market intermediaries; and
- to exchange information at both global and regional levels on their respective experiences in order to assist the development of markets, strengthen market infrastructure and implement appropriate regulation.

6. This media release also is available in other languages. Those translations have not been verified by the IOSCO General Secretariat and any formal reference should therefore be made to this original English-language version.

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