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IOSCO to launch 2020 World Investor Week to promote investor education

The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) is preparing to launch its fourth annual World Investor Week (WIW) from 5 to 11 October 2020, as initially planned before the outbreak of COVID 19. The dedicated campaign website for the 2020 edition of the WIW (www.worldinvestorweek.org) is now available for participants and other interested parties.

IOSCO has decided to proceed with the WIW during these difficult times. More than ever, investors and financial consumers worldwide need to manage their finances and investments efficiently and strengthen their financial resilience in the face of growing economic uncertainty.

To facilitate this global initiative, the 2020 WIW will accommodate the needs of each participating jurisdiction. If they so choose, jurisdictions may launch their campaigns in a fully digital format. Given the logistical issues and other unique challenges posed by the pandemic, the 2020 WIW will allow jurisdictions to choose the week in October or November that works best for promoting financial and investor education and disseminating the event's key messages.

The WIW is a week-long global campaign promoted by IOSCO to raise awareness of the importance of investor education and protection and highlight the various initiatives of securities regulators in these two critical areas. The campaign also has the support of international organizations such as the G20. IOSCO members on six continents will offer a range of activities, including investor-focused communications and services, contests to

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increase awareness of investor education initiatives, workshops and conferences and local/national educational campaigns. Many members leverage the event to organize further investor education activities throughout the year.

In addition to the key themes of last year's edition -- online investing, initial coin offerings and the basics of investing -- the WIW 2020 will also cover Ed-Tech issues, such as digital learning and online education, which were shown to foster important remote learning opportunities during the lockdown in various jurisdictions.

In 2019, securities regulators, stock exchanges, international organizations, investor associations and other IOSCO stakeholders from 89 jurisdictions participated in the week-long campaign. The key messages from this event reached over 108 million people through the press and various online channels and we expect a similar reach this year.

Ashley Alder, Chair of the IOSCO Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission, said, "I welcome this fourth edition of World Investor Week, which will be held while all countries continue to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic. On behalf of the IOSCO Board, I would like to extend my appreciation to all IOSCO members and their stakeholders who have supported this international initiative to raise awareness of investor education and protection, particularly in such challenging times."

The dedicated campaign website www.worldinvestorweek.org provides details on the various participating authorities and the international organizations supporting this effort.

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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, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Ontario, Pakistan, Portugal, Quebec, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America (both the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission). The Chair of the European Securities and Markets Authority 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. Dr. Obaid Al Zaabi, Chief Executive Officer, Securities and Commodities Authority, United Arab Emirates, 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. 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.

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