

## MEDIA RELEASE



International Organization of Securities Commissions  
Organisation internationale des commissions de valeurs  
Organização Internacional das Comissões de Valores  
Organización Internacional de Comisiones de Valores  
المنظمة الدولية لهيئات الأوراق المالية

IOSCO/MR/09/2019

Madrid, 25 March 2019

### **IOSCO publishes first annual work program to enhance the efficacy of its work**

The Board of the International Organization of Securities Commissions today published its [first annual work program](#), to enhance the effectiveness of IOSCO and the impact of its policy work on global securities markets.

The Board agreed on five priority issues for its work in 2019, based on the conclusions of the IOSCO Risk Outlook and drawing on input from members and IOSCO policy committees.

The priorities identified by the Board for 2019 are:

1. Crypto-assets
2. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
3. Market Fragmentation
4. Passive Investing and Index Providers
5. Retail Distribution and Digitalization

Each of these priorities falls into one or more of five broad focus areas that were approved by the Board in late 2016 to guide IOSCO's work:

1. Strengthening the structural resilience of capital markets;
2. Addressing data gaps and information sharing issues;
3. Applying new insights into investor protection and investor education;

4. Analyzing the role of securities markets in capital-raising and sustainability issues, and the related role of securities regulation;
5. Examining the role of regulation in financial technology and automation;

The work program will help ensure that the work of IOSCO's eight policy committees, its Committee on Emerging Risk and Assessment Committee is closely aligned with Board-approved priorities in the future.

Ashley Alder, Chair of the IOSCO Board, said: *“The publication of our work program will bring more transparency to our work, benefiting both members and stakeholders. It also will facilitate greater cooperation among IOSCO members, at a time when IOSCO work increasingly cuts across the mandates of different policy committees.”*

## **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 (both the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission). 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. 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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