### **MEDIA RELEASE**





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# The IOSCO World Investor Week continues to promote investor education and investor protection worldwide

The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) will celebrate the sixth annual World Investor Week (WIW), from 3 to 9 October 2022, with investor resilience and sustainable finance as its two main themes.

As part of the preparations for the campaign, IOSCO today published the <u>World Investor Week 2021 - Public Report</u>. The report describes real examples of the variety of activities organized and conducted by different participating jurisdictions in 2021, thus providing a useful guide to the range of activities that participating jurisdictions could undertake in 2022.

Although last year's campaign took place under the stringent conditions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the participating jurisdictions adapted the format of their campaigns to fit their circumstances (e.g., using a virtual format in some cases or offering in-person activities in others). Moreover, different participants took advantage of the WIW campaign to announce significant local initiatives to enhance investor education and investor protection. For example:

- At the opening ceremony of the WIW 2021, the National Ministry of Economy of Argentina presented the National Financial Education Plan (PNEF), and the National Securities Commission (CNV) released the Guide for Investor Protection.
- As a part of its official WIW 2021 activities, the Securities Commission of The Bahamas (SCB) unveiled new measures on financial frauds and schemes. Also, the Prime Minister declared the month of October "Investor Education Month".
- The Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (CVM) of Brazil and the Ministry of Education (MEC) launched a platform to train half a million teachers in Financial Education through free online courses, to ensure that financial planning, personal finance management and investments are increasingly taught at schools across the country.
- The Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA) of Egypt inaugurated the Financial Literacy Knowledge Hub, which aims to create financial knowledge, culture and awareness among the business community in the Non-Banking Financial sector.

• The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched a Certificate Program for college students on the Basics of Capital Markets.

Jose Vasco, WIW Working Group Coordinator, said: "The IOSCO World Investor Week is an inclusive campaign that increasingly involves different stakeholders, from Central Banks and Ministries of Finance to financial intermediaries and advisors to universities and schools. Inclusiveness is important, as this campaign is a cross-sectoral effort aimed at promoting investor education and investor protection and reaching out to current and potential investors."

Martin Moloney, Secretary General of IOSCO, said: "Promoting investor education is important under normal circumstances but it is particularly crucial during times of stress. In the current context, investors face risks exacerbated by geopolitical conflicts, inflationary trends, and uncertainty over the evolution of current events, among other challenges. Financial education is a tool to assist retail investors perceive the risks and opportunities they encounter and help them protect against fraud, be financially resilient, and avoid unnecessary risks."

The WIW website <u>www.worldinvestorweek.org</u> provides additional details on the campaign for 2022, including how to participate in this global campaign.

#### 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 organisation's membership regulates more than 95% of the world's securities markets in some 130 jurisdictions, and it continues to expand.
- 2. The IOSCO Board is the governing and standard-setting body of IOSCO and comprises 34 securities regulators. Mr. Ashley Alder, the Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission 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, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Ontario, Pakistan, Portugal, Quebec, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, 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 more than 75% per cent of the IOSCO membership, including ten of the G20 members. 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 focus on risks and vulnerabilities assessments, policy and development work affecting emerging markets, and regulatory capacity building, among others.
- 4. IOSCO aims through its permanent structures:

- to cooperate in developing, implementing and promoting internationally recognized and consistent standards of regulation, oversight and enforcement 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 to assist the development of markets, strengthen market infrastructure and implement appropriate regulation.

## **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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