

Press release

Sovereign Wealth Funds Converge In Singapore To Discuss Long-Term Investing In A Changing World

Singapore, 5 December 2013 – Amundi, a leading asset manager with over US\$1 trillion of assets under management (AuM), together with its academic partners Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics at Singapore Management University (SMU), Université Paris-Dauphine, Committee on Global Thought - and Centre on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University, are co-organising the 4th Annual Sovereign Wealth Fund Conference (“the Conference”) in Singapore. The Conference will be held on the 5th and 6th December at the SMU campus.

Over 250 guests will be present to discuss long-term investing in a changing world. Thirty-five senior delegates from 25 sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) and other long-term investors worldwide with more than US\$5 trillion AuM in total, as well as well-respected academics, investment executives and policy makers from the United States, Europe, Asia and beyond will be sharing their views in this two-day Conference.

Mr Lim Boon Heng, Chairman of Temasek Holdings, will grace the occasion as the Guest-of-Honour and deliver the Opening Address, while SMU’s President, Professor Arnoud De Meyer will deliver the Welcome Address. The Conference has also drawn a stellar line-up of thought leaders and scholars to share their valuable insights. Among them are Nobel Laureate Professor Thomas Sargent from New York University, and Nobel Laureate Designate Professor Robert Shiller from Yale University.

The focus of this year’s conference is the approach and the sustainability of long-term investment processes. The emergence of large sovereign wealth funds has stirred the investment profession. Their common mandate which broadly commands – *“Thou shalt invest for long term, for future generations”* – is of global concern. Long-term investing is difficult, this is particularly so today in a fundamentally changing economic environment, and within which capital markets are ill-adapted as it stands, for attaining long-term performance objectives. The discussion topics include the market of investing in industry and in infrastructure, the strategic allocation of sovereign wealth, inflation-protected securities, and governance of sovereign wealth funds.

Pascal Blanqué, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Amundi, commented, *“More than ever in turbulent times, the short-termism of financial markets creates a need for stability that can only come from long-term investors. By providing financial support to this Conference, Amundi will contribute to the creation of an academic network around this theme.”*

Professor Arnoud De Meyer, President of SMU, said *“We are delighted to host this Conference in Asia for the first time. As the local academic partner, we will be contributing to the Conference discussions through the impactful inter-disciplinary research we have done in the areas of economics, business and finance. One example would be the Singapore Inflation Expectations Index which was created in January 2012 by our Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics. The index is derived from an online survey of around 400 randomly selected individuals from Singapore households. The online survey helps researchers understand the behaviour and sentiments of decision makers in Singapore households. Long-term inflation expectations are naturally related to long-term investment, which is the main theme of this Conference.”*

Amundi has been operating in Asia since 1982. With over 30 years of on-the-ground experience, Amundi has developed an extensive network among institutional investors in the region and a deep understanding of investors' needs. Amundi's presence and growing footprint in Asia demonstrate its long term commitment to investors in Asia-Pacific region, which is one of the fastest growing regions in the world. Most recently, Amundi has extended its product offering to retail investors in Singapore and Hong Kong.

About Amundi

Amundi ranks first in Europe¹ and ninth worldwide¹ in the asset management industry with AUM of more than €750 billion².

Located at the heart of the main investment regions in almost 30 countries, Amundi offers a comprehensive range of products covering all asset classes and major currencies.

Amundi has developed savings solutions to meet the needs of more than 100 million retail clients worldwide and designs innovative, high-performing products for institutional clients which are tailored specifically to their requirements and risk profile.

It contributes to funding the economy by orienting savings toward company development.

Amundi has become a leading European player in asset management, recognised for:

- Product performance and transparency;
- Quality of client relationships based on a long-term advisory approach;
- Efficiency in its organisation and team engagement to serve its clients;
- Commitment to sustainable development and socially responsible investment policies.

1. Source IPE « Top 400 asset managers active in the European marketplace » published in June 2013, based on figures as at December 2012. Interviews of asset management companies on their assets as at end-December 2012 (open-end funds, dedicated funds, mandates).

2. Amundi Group figures as at 30 September 2013.

About Singapore Management University

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading edge research with global impact and produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. It is known to be a pioneer in Singapore for its interactive and technologically-enabled pedagogy of seminar-style teaching in small class sizes which remains its unique hallmark.

Home to about 8,000 students, SMU comprises six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Information Systems, School of Law and School of Social Sciences, offering a wide range of bachelor's, master's and PhD degree programmes in business and other disciplines.

With an emphasis on generating rigorous, high impact cross-disciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance, SMU faculty collaborates with leading foreign researchers as well as partners in the business community and public sector through its research institutes and centres. Through executive education, the university provides public and customised training for working professionals in meeting the needs of the economy. Close relationships with leading universities, including the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Carnegie Mellon University, and the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, allow SMU to draw on their academic and research strengths in various collaborations. The SMU city campus is a state-of-



the art facility located in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with the business and wider community. www.smu.edu.sg

About Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics

Established in July 2008, the Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics (SKBI) at the Singapore Management University promotes the study of Financial Economics and Financial Econometrics in areas of strategic relevance to Singapore's economy and the economies of the region. A significant addition to Singapore's role as a financial hub in Asia, SKBI is a leading institute for academic research with strong industry application and practical dimensions in the area of Financial Economics.

Its work is conducted in close collaboration with leading scholars in financial economics and financial econometrics from around the world as well as leading international organisations and experts from industry. skbi.smu.edu.sg

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