

Paris, Sydney, Boston, 3 October 2017

Natixis expands its Asset Management presence in APAC with the acquisition of a majority stake in Investors Mutual Limited

Natixis today announced the signing of agreements to acquire a majority ownership stake (51.9%) in Investors Mutual Limited (IML) in Australia, which becomes a new affiliate of Natixis Global Asset Management.

With IML, a well-established asset manager with FUM of AU\$9.0bn, Natixis Global Asset Management will achieve its first major acquisition in Australia and increase its exposure to the local retail market and the Australian superannuation industry. This marks an important step in Natixis Global Asset Management's ambition to have a meaningful presence in Australia.

Under the terms of the acquisition, NGAM will acquire all the shares in IML held by Pacific Current Group Limited (ASX: PAC), along with a portion of the shares in IML held by IML founder Anton Tagliaferro, for up to AU\$155m in cash. This will give NGAM an equity stake of 51.9% in IML.

IML is a well-respected, successful Australian equities value manager created in 1998. It has a long-term, conservative, quality and value based investment style.

IML's management team will remain key shareholders in the business alongside NGAM. IML Investment Director, Anton Tagliaferro, will continue to run the business, supported by Head of Research Hugh Giddy and other senior leaders. The IML management team continues to be committed to the business through its significant equity interest in IML.

Under NGAM's multi-affiliate strategy, IML will retain its autonomy, investment philosophy and culture, as well as benefit from the support and stability of a global group that specialises in asset management and which has a track record of successful ownership and development of investment management companies around the world. There will be no changes to the way in which IML is run day-to-day, nor to its management.

"We have previously stated that it is our intention to pursue new growth in the Asia Pacific market, and this marks the first acquisition as part of those plans. IML has a strong track record as one of Australia's most consistently-performing fund managers, and its commitment to investors and reputation in the market will make a significant contribution to the Natixis Global Asset Management multi-affiliate model," said **Jean Raby, member of Natixis Senior Management Committee and CEO of Natixis Global Asset Management.**

"The Australian wealth management industry in particular is highly sophisticated, and IML's views on portfolio construction and risk management align with Natixis Global Asset Management's Durable Portfolio Construction approach. Moreover, IML shares our core values of consistency, transparency and always putting clients first," said **Fabrice Chemouny, Head of APAC at Natixis Global Asset Management.**

"We welcome Natixis Global Asset Management, one of the world's leading asset managers, as a supportive, long-term shareholder and business partner, and we look forward to working with Natixis Global Asset Management to continue to run IML successfully and focusing on delivering consistent performance for our clients in Australian equities" said **Anton Tagliaferro, Investment Director at IML.**

Natixis Global Asset Management currently has over 20 affiliates, each of which concentrates on the investment styles and disciplines in which they have proven expertise. The multi-affiliate structure is built on a belief in the power of independent thinking, and purposefully maintains the autonomy, investment philosophy and culture of the firms it acquires.

About IML

IML is a specialist Australian Equities Fund Manager, established in 1998. IML is well recognised for its true-to-label investment style that has been successfully applied since inception with the aim of delivering consistent returns for clients. For further information, go www.iml.com.au

About Natixis Global Asset Management (NGAM)

Natixis Global Asset Management (NGAM) is ranked among the world's largest asset management firms. Supporting specialised investment managers globally (A\$951.7 billion AUM), NGAM offers a diverse range of asset management solutions to investors.

NGAM focuses on risk to help clients construct strategic portfolios that seek to endure today's unpredictable markets. We draw from deep investor and industry insights built over the last 20 years. Headquartered in Paris and Boston, Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A. is part of Natixis and listed on the Paris Stock Exchange.

NGAM owns stakes in over 20 investment managers around the world including leading global equity value manager Harris Associates and multi asset manager Loomis Sayles.

For additional information, please visit the company's website at ngam.natixis.com <<https://ngam.natixis.com/us/home>> |