

Press release

Geneva, October 28, 2008

Sustainable Finance Geneva wants our region to become the capital of sustainable finance.

Today, experts in sustainable and responsible investment are launching a new association, Sustainable Finance Geneva (SFG), created to promote financial solutions reconciling economic development with social and environmental challenges.

SFG is an association created by fifteen professionals with a common interest in promoting sustainable finance and responsible investment. They saw a unique opportunity to accelerate progress and create synergies in this field. After several months of discussions, the founding documents were signed in November, 2007. *“We have been meeting in order to share our knowledge and strengthen an international movement in favour of sustainable investment”*, notes Angela de Wolff, SFG’s President.

The initiative has been created by fifteen interdisciplinary experts specialized in Socially Responsible Investment (SRI), Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) research, microfinance, philanthropy, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and sustainable development professionals from international organizations. Sustainable finance reconciles the traditional objectives of investors with the environmental and socio-economics challenges, within the framework of loans, investments and other financial services.

SFG is looking to attract practitioners with a common interest in actively learning, sharing and promoting sustainability and responsible investment. Members of SFG have the unique opportunity to stay at the leading edge of their industries by being part of an innovative drive promoting sustainable finance with exclusive and select access to a number of benefits such as up-to-date news and information, publications, thematic seminars, monthly roundtables and an annual conference.

“We believe that Geneva’s unique location grouping international organizations addressing global challenges, sustainable businesses and financial services firms makes it an ideal location for promotion of excellence in this new financial discipline”, explains Jean Laville, Vice-President of SFG.

The association is supported by Geneva Financial Center, an organization that gathers the most important actors of finance within the area. *“Geneva Financial Center has decided to give its firm support to Sustainable Finance Geneva as it will contribute to strengthening the intellectual capital available for the various actors of Geneva’s financial centre, thus allowing them to better address the growing demand among their clients in the field of sustainable finance”*, comments Ivan Pictet, President of Geneva Financial Center.

For additional information on SFG or to apply for membership, please visit www.sfgeneva.org

Founders of Sustainable Finance Geneva

Etienne Eichenberger	Co-Founder, Wise Philanthropy Advisors
Remco Fischer	Coordinator, UNEP FI
Natacha Guerdat	Partner, ConSer Invest S.A.
Cheryl Hicks	Capital Markets & Valuation, WBCSD
Paul Clements-Hunt	Head of Unit, UNEP FI
Ulrike Kaiser	Head of Institutional Sales, Dexia Asset Management
Jean Laville	Executive Deputy Director, Ethos Foundation
Cédric Lombard	Co-Founder & Director, Symbiotics S.A.
Antoine Mach	Co-Founder, Covalence S.A.
Antoine Melo	CFO, BlueOrchard Finance S.A.
Philippe Spicher	CEO, Centre Info S.A.
Guillaume Taylor	Partner, de Pury Pictet Turrettini & Cie S.A.
Elizabeth Umlas	Independent Researcher
Angela de Wolff	Founder & CEO, ConSer Invest S.A.

Executive committee

Angela de Wolff	President
Jean Laville	Vice-President
Cédric Lombard	Vice-President
Antoine Mach	Member
Guillaume Taylor	Treasurer
Olivier Fruchaud	Secretary

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