

**ICGN**

International Corporate Governance Network

**ICGN Press Release****ICGN Convenes Investment and Business Leaders for Annual Conference in Tokyo: Re-focusing Corporate Governance for Sustainable Value Creation**

---

**Tokyo, Japan, 16 July 2019** – The International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN) with members responsible for assets under management in excess of US\$34 trillion will convene in Tokyo for the ICGN Annual General Meeting and Conference. Hosted by the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the conference is endorsed by the Financial Services Agency, Ministry for Economic Trade and Industry, Ministry of Justice and Keidanren.

*“The demands on board directors and investors, as stewards of capital, have never been greater”* said Robert Walker, ICGN’s Chair Designate. *“Together, boards and investors are working to build better companies with greater integrity, diversity and an ambition to create long term sustainable value. The ICGN is the world’s leading network of governance experts driving this complex agenda forward. We’re proud to present this year’s annual conference in Japan where the governance agenda is evolving rapidly.”*

Koichiro Miyahara, President & CEO, Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc welcomed delegates in Tokyo and commented:

*“It is a great honor for us to be hosting the Annual Conference in Tokyo. Through the corporate governance reform in Japan, investors and listed companies have gained understanding on the importance of effective corporate governance, and how it impacts the medium- to-long term growth of companies. We believe this Annual conference will lead investors and companies to engage in deeper dialogue around issues such as how to improve the companies’ governance initiatives in “substance”.*

As well as focusing on global governance issues, the conference will address progress towards Japan’s Revitalisation Strategy and consider how reforms have led to tangible improvements in practice such as reducing cross-shareholdings, enhancing board diversity and promoting awareness of the cost of capital in strategic business decisions. Other subjects over the three-day agenda include:

- Linking sustainable finance to the real economy
- Strengthening the influence of independent directors
- Board responsibility for managing systemic risk in times of uncertainty
- Reforming corporate disclosure for 21st century reporting

The conference will feature a video address from the start from **Prime Minister Shinzo Abe** and keynote remarks and interviews with prominent Japanese leaders include:

- Toshihide Endo, Commissioner, Financial Services Agency
- Takashi Hibino, Vice Chair, Board of Councillors, Keidanren, Chair of Committee on Financial and Capital Markets, Keidanren, Chairman, Board, Daiwa Securities Group
- Professor Kunio Ito, Graduate School of Commerce & Management, Hitotsubashi University
- Hiro Mizuno, Executive Managing Director & Chief Investment Officer, GPIF

The Conference will convene over 500 global investors, business leaders, regulators and other capital market stakeholders and will take place between 16-18 July at the New Otani Hotel, Tokyo, Japan and features over 70 prominent speakers from around the world.



**ICGN**

International Corporate Governance Network

**ENDS**

**EDITOR'S NOTES**

About International Corporate Governance Network

Established in 1995, the International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN) is led by investors responsible for assets under management in excess of \$US 34 trillion, ICGN is a leading authority on global standards of corporate governance and investor stewardship. We promote high standards of professional practice among investors and companies alike in their mutual pursuit of long-term value creation contributing to sustainable economies world-wide. [www.icgn.org](http://www.icgn.org).

For enquiries, please contact:

Elle Thomas, Head of Communications and Events:

T: +44 (0)20 7612 7096

E: [elizabeth.thomas@icgn.org](mailto:elizabeth.thomas@icgn.org)

Milly Sheehan, Communications Manager

T: +44 (0)20 7612 7093

E: [milly.sheehan@icgn.org](mailto:milly.sheehan@icgn.org)