ICGN Press Release

Winners of the ICGN Global Stewardship Awards Announced

London, United Kingdom - The winners of the ICGN Global Stewardship Awards, recognising excellence and innovation in investor stewardship were announced at a ceremony in London last week on 26 November. The awards were presented by the International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN), an investor-led body with members representing assets under management in excess of US$34 trillion.

The winners are:

- ICGN Global Stewardship Disclosure Award for Asset Owners – Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB)
- ICGN Global Stewardship Disclosure Award (Asset Managers > $60bn AuM) – Aviva Investors
- ICGN Global Stewardship Disclosure Award (Asset Managers < $60bn AuM) – Martin Currie Investment Management Ltd
- ICGN Global Stewardship Champion Award - Natasha Landell-Mills (Head of Stewardship, Sarasin & Partners)

Announcing the winners Kerrie Waring, ICGN’s CEO, said: “Regulators around the world are increasingly calling for better quality stewardship disclosures to evidence the outputs and effects of stewardship in practice. As investor stewardship continues to professionalise, it is important to recognise leadership and innovation. ICGN’s Awards attempt to recognise this by showcasing the best in class for others to emulate.”

On receiving the Global Stewardship Disclosure Award for Asset Owners, Deborah Orida, Senior Managing Director & Global Head of Active Equities, CPPIB said: “Our core principles of accountability and high performance, as well as our responsibility to conduct ourselves as principled and thoughtful owners are central to our mandate to improve long-term investment returns for the Canadian workers and retirees we serve. Recognition of our achievements in disclosure is a great endorsement of our team as we help spark positive change through proactive and constructive dialogue as well as leading by example.”

On receiving the Global Stewardship Disclosure Award for Asset Managers >$60bn AuM, Mirza Baig, Global Head of Governance, Aviva Investors said: “We are pleased to have received this award for our stewardship reporting. The journey to sustainable capital markets requires investors to hold themselves to the same standards of transparency and accountability that we expect of companies.”

On receiving the Global Stewardship Disclosure Award for Asset Managers < $60bn AuM, David Sheasby, Head of Stewardship and ESG, Martin Currie Investment Management Ltd said: “At Martin Currie we understand the value of stewardship in working towards a more sustainable investment environment that can better deliver long-term value for our clients. We recognise the key role that the ICGN plays in driving corporate governance and stewardship practices globally – especially in promoting effective and transparent disclosure. As such, we are really delighted to be recognised by the ICGN for our work with regard to our global stewardship disclosures.”

On receiving the ICGN Global Stewardship Champion Award, Natasha Landell-Mills, Head of Stewardship, Sarasin & Partners said “I feel incredibly honoured to receive this award for what has been a team effort to promote more reliable company accounts and truly independent audit. While easy to overlook as a technical issue, accounting is profoundly important to stewardship.”
Put simply, accountability depends on reliable accounts. While we have seen important steps forward, serious flaws persist. More investors need to demand change. Auditors need to be held to account.”

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EDITOR’S NOTES

International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN)

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. ICGN promotes high standards of professional practice among companies and investors alike in their pursuit of long-term value creation contributing to sustainable economies worldwide communicated by the ICGN Global Governance Principles and ICGN Global Stewardship Principles.

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