

ICGN Annual Conference 2019

Hosted by the Tokyo Stock Exchange

Re-focusing Corporate Governance for a Sustainable Future

16-18 July , Hotel New Otani, Tokyo



PROGRAMME



ICGN

International Corporate Governance Network

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 companies and investors alike in their pursuit of long-term value creation contributing to sustainable economies world-wide communicated by the ICGN [Global Governance Principles](#) and [Global Stewardship Principles](#)



The Tokyo Stock Exchange is part of the [Japan Exchange Group \(JPX\)](#), Providing market facilities for securities trading, publicizing market prices and quotations, ensuring fairness of securities trading, and other business regarding operation of the financial instruments exchange market and business incidental thereto.

ICGN is proud to be hosted by the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) for the 2019 Annual Conference & Annual General Meeting. Over 600 influential governance professionals will convene in Tokyo to discuss progress towards Japan's Revitalisation Strategy to enhance long term corporate value contributing to sustainable economies world-wide. The three-day event will address the impact of corporate governance and investor stewardship reforms and highlight future priorities for companies, investors and stakeholders alike.

Events Details

Date

16 - 18 July 2019

Venue

Hotel New Otani, 4- 1
Kioicho, Chiyoda, Tokyo
102-0094, Japan

Fee

Member: £750
Non-member: £1,070

www.icgn.org/events/icgn-2019-annual-conference-tokyo

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ICGN Annual Conference 2019 Agenda

kindly hosted by the Tokyo Stock Exchange

Re-focusing Corporate Governance for a Sustainable Future

Tuesday, 16 July 2019: Official Conference Opening

16:00 – 16:15 **Welcome from the Host**

16:15 – 16:30 **Welcome from the ICGN**

16:30 – 16:45 **Ministerial Address**

16:45 – 18:00 **Plenary 1: A new era for Japanese corporate governance**

In 2018 the Japan Corporate Governance Code was updated, following a revision of Japan's Stewardship Code in 2017. To what extent have these initiatives led to tangible improvements in practice –reducing cross-shareholdings, enhancing board diversity or promoting awareness of the cost of capital in strategic business decisions? What's next from policy-makers to ensure long term value creation by companies and investors alike?

18:00 – 19:00 **Press Conference**

18:30 – 20:00 **Welcome Reception**

Wednesday, 17 July 2019: Conference Agenda

08.00 – 09:00 **Breakfast Session** – Hosted by Nestle

09:30 – 09:40 **Welcome from the ICGN**

09:40 -10:00 **Opening Keynote Address**

10:00– 11:00 **Plenary 2: Linking sustainable finance to the real economy**

In October 2018, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that not enough is being done to avoid irrevocable damage to the planet – in fact instead of cutting carbon dioxide emissions, world consumption of oil, coal and natural gas is increasing. How are governments supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals in alignment with TCFD disclosure requirements? Should other markets follow the Bank of England's lead and impose rules requiring a senior executive to take charge of climate change risks? What lessons can we learn from the Canadian experiences of carbon offsetting? How is the EU Action Plan linking sustainable finance to the real economy?

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshments

11:30 – 12:30 **Plenary 3: Strengthening the power and influence of independent directors**

Independent Directors, free from external influence, offset the domination of decision-making from any single individual in the boardroom. How can the role of independent directors in Japan and around the world be strengthened to mitigate an overly powerful Chairman or CEO? What measures can be implemented to ensure effective oversight of CEO remuneration? And what steps should be taken to improve corporate governance disclosures – approved by the Board? Is there an optimal proportion of independent directors for a board to be truly effective?

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:45 – 14:45 **Hosted Sessions**

15:00 – 15:30 Refreshments

15:30 – 16:15 **Keynote Interview**

16:30– 17:30 **Plenary 4: Reforming corporate disclosure and audit for 21st Century reporting**

In Japan efforts are underway to provide better corporate reporting to address long term risks and opportunities. What can be learnt from other initiatives such as the UK's Strategic Business Report? What measures are regulators taking to help ensure market confidence, integrity and transparency? What are the roles and responsibilities of the board and the management in the corporate reporting model in 21st century? How can reporting systems and processes be improved to ensure the credibility of reporting? What role does corporate reporting play to enhance quality of information enhancing engagement between companies and investors?

18:00 – 20:00 **Conference Dinner**

Thursday 18 July 2019, Conference Agenda

08:00 – 09:15 **Breakfast Session**

09:30 – 09:40 **Welcome back**

Kerrie Waring, Chief Executive Officer, ICGN

09:40 – 10:00 **Morning Keynote Address:**

10:00 – 11:00 **Plenary 5: Shareholder primacy versus stakeholder primacy: is there an optimal model?**

Western democracies are increasingly challenged by stakeholders demanding a greater voice in holding companies to account. This is evidenced in the UK Corporate Governance Code and mooted in the proposed USA's 'Accountable Capitalism Act.'

Japanese companies are accustomed to responding to the interests of the workforce (some might say at the expense of shareholders). How do boards promote the success of the company in the interests of shareholders and relevant stakeholders in various markets? What are the implications for collective board responsibility when specific interest groups are represented? Who is most able to hold companies to account and keep a check and balance on corporate governance – shareholders or stakeholders?

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshments

11:30 – 12:30 **Plenary 6: Leadership perspectives: role and effectiveness of asset owners and their managers in corporate governance oversight**

The concept of investor stewardship is now formalised in multiple markets around the world as a key discipline to effective corporate governance oversight. What are leaders of investment institutions doing to ensure that best practice principles are adopted in practice? How assertive are asset owners in assessing the performance of their managers who act on their behalf? What are the impediments to effectively holding companies to account, for example through voting and engagement?

12:30 – 13:30 **Plenary 7: Corporate board responsibility for managing systemic risk in times of uncertainty**

Systemic risks present challenges to corporate boards way beyond the ordinary course of business. How are corporate boards equipped to deal with environmental risks such as climate change, water scarcity, pollution and natural disasters? What about social risks culminating from human migration, resulting in a rise in populist movements around the world? How ready are we for technological innovations such as autonomous cars and e-commerce which are set to shape our future?

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:45 – 15:45 **Hosted Sessions**

15:45 – 16:15 Refreshments

16:15 – 17:15 **Plenary 8: The future beyond 2020**

Corporate governance and responsible investment practices evolve as markets globalise and adapt to new environments, technologies and demography. This creates uncertainty but also opportunity. Populations are ageing and are more divided as the gap grows between the rich and poor. Economic power is shifting from West to East while both grapple with perhaps the biggest challenge yet – how to deal with climate change. What does this mean for the way we do business, the way we invest and the way we regulate and what does the future hold beyond 2020?

17:15 – 17:30 **ICGN Annual Conference Handover Ceremony**

17:30 – 18:30 **Closing Drinks Reception**



FAQs

What does conference registration include?

Conference registration only covers the conference itself. It does not cover hotel rooms or attendance at any training courses taking place alongside the conference. Any training or educational programs require a separate registration and fees.

Are there sponsorship opportunities at ICGN conferences?

Yes, non-content related sponsorship is available. Please contact Flo Doel at florence.doel@icgn.org & +44 (0)20 7612 7091 for more information.

I have a special dietary request for meals at a ICGN conference. What do I do?

Be sure to include the information with your registration. If you did not specify your requests during the online registration process, please visit the registration desk and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

What type of security protocols are in place during ICGN conferences?

ICGN takes security at our functions seriously. Security personnel are on site for all sessions and receptions. All attendees are required to check-in at registration upon arrival to obtain a name badge and pertinent conference information. All attendees must wear their name badge in plain sight for admission to all conference sessions and receptions. Members and guests not wearing the proper name badge will not be admitted to any ICGN functions. Members who attend and have unpaid fees will need to sign a declaration of intent to pay in order to be allowed to attend any conference events.

Are the conferences filmed or photographed?

Portions of the conference's events may be recorded by video, audio and/or photographs (the "recordings") and may be used by ICGN or its designee, and made available to the public, as part of live, delayed or archived video or audio casts; event transcripts; ICGN materials or publications; marketing or advertising materials or publications; and other materials or publications, in any media or format now existing or hereafter created. By attending or participating in the conference, you acknowledge and agree that ICGN may use, reproduce, display, perform and otherwise distribute the recordings, and any portions thereof — as it may include or feature your name, likeness or biographical information — without any further compensation, permission, or notification to you, and that all recordings captured during the conference or at any of the ICGN's other events are the exclusive rights of the International Corporate Governance Network

How does ICGN select conference speakers?

ICGN conference speakers for plenary and break-out sessions are invited by the Chief Executive Office, Policy Director, Policy Advisor and the relevant Conference Planning Committee. ICGN's board of directors plays an "advise and consent" role. There is no open call for interested speakers. Members are invited to make suggestions directly to ICGN staff at any time, bearing the following in mind:

- Requests far outnumber speaker slots
- Neither membership history nor sponsorship history factors into decisions about invitations
- By policy, ICGN does not provide speaking opportunities on a "pay-for-play" basis; the board has made clear that the staff should select topics and speakers based on interest to the membership, including desire for diverse programming

