

## Abu Dhabi Investment Authority Appoints Global Head of Alternative Investments

Abu Dhabi, UAE – 7 December, 2011

The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority said today that it has appointed Benjamin C. Weston as Global Head of Alternative Investments, effective immediately.

Mr. Weston will be responsible, together with the Alternative Investments Department's senior management team, for developing strategy in the alternatives space and overseeing the Department's investment programme. Based in Abu Dhabi, Mr. Weston will report to Khalifa Almheiri, Executive Director of the Alternative Investments Department.

In a career spanning 30 years, Mr. Weston has been focused on the development and use of derivatives by investors, in addition to working closely with the hedge fund community, first as an adviser, and then as an investor.

Having started his career in 1978 at JP Morgan, Mr. Weston later joined Bankers Trust in London as head of its Capital Markets Group, before also starting and leading its equity derivatives business in Europe and Asia. In 1990, he returned to New York as a founding member and co-head of Credit Suisse Financial Products in the Americas before taking responsibility in 1996 for Credit Suisse First Boston's global sales and research operations in foreign exchange, emerging markets and rates. Beginning in late 1998, he converted a number of business units to hedge funds, several of which continue today, then followed this by creating his own firm to incubate emerging hedge-fund managers. In 2005, Mr. Weston was named CEO of Merrill Lynch Alternative Investments, where he was responsible for some \$26 billion in assets under management across a series of platforms that served Merrill's clients worldwide. For the past three years, Mr. Weston has been resident in Geneva managing investments for institutional investors, most recently as CEO of Helvetica Wealth Management Partners, a company controlled by Credit Suisse and the State of Qatar.

Commenting on the appointment, Mr. Almheiri, Executive Director of ADIA's Alternative Investments Department, said: "We are very pleased to welcome Ben Weston to ADIA. His extensive and varied experience across the alternative investments industry will help us to further develop our capabilities and breadth of expertise in this important area."

### NOTES TO EDITORS

Established in 1976, the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) is a globally diversified investment institution that is wholly owned by the Government of Abu Dhabi.

ADIA manages a substantial global investment portfolio, which is highly diversified across more than two-dozen asset classes and sub-categories, including quoted equities, fixed income, real estate, private equity, alternatives and infrastructure. With a long tradition of prudent investing, ADIA's decisions are based solely on its economic objectives of delivering sustained, long-term financial returns.

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