



INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR INVESTOR EDUCATION



... March 2009 News Advisory ...

**MORE THAN 100 OF THE WORLD'S INVESTOR EDUCATION LEADERS
TO ATTEND IOSCO/IFIE CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

*In the Wake of the Financial Crisis, Focus Is on the Role of Investor Education in Rebuilding Investor Confidence;
Early-Bird Registration Deadline Extended to 11 February 2009.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. and MADRID, SPAIN//News Advisory//More than 100 of the world's investor education leaders will gather on 2-3 March 2009 in Washington, D.C. for the second joint conference of the International Forum for Investor Education (IFIE) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).

Governmental, quasi-governmental, self-regulatory and trade association investor educator practitioners are encouraged to attend the event, which will focus on rebuilding investor confidence after the recent turmoil in the world's financial markets. Early-bird registration for the conference has been extended until 11 February 2009 at <http://www.ifie.org/2009conference>.

At the conference, experts from the world's leading regulatory organizations, stock exchanges, and financial firms will provide attendees with the information needed to start or improve investor education within their countries and organizations, and allow them to share and learn from one another's experience. In the midst of the current market turmoil and global credit crunch, the role of investor educators is more important than in helping to rebuild consumer confidence in the markets.

The IFIE/IOSCO investor education conference will take place at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C., near the National Mall, major museums and historic monuments. Full conference details – including registration rates and details for the remaining event sponsorship opportunities -- are available at the IFIE/IOSCO conference Web page at <http://ifie.org/2009conference>.

Speakers, moderators and panelists include (in alphabetical order): Don Blandin, President and CEO, Investor Protection Trust, Unites States; Paul Bourque (moderator), Senior Vice President, Enforcement, Policy, and Registration, Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada; Patricia Bowles, Director, Communications and Education, British Columbia Securities Commission, Canada; Kathryn Edmundson, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Foundation, United States; John Gannon, President, FINRA Investor Education Foundation and Senior Vice President, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, United States; Tom Hamza, President, Investor Education Fund, Canada; Hesham Ibrahim, Chief, Chairman's Technical Affairs Committee, Capital Market Authority, Egypt; Norio Inomata, General Manager, Securities Education Division, Japan

Securities Dealers Association; Steve Joachim, Chairman, International Forum for Investor Education and Executive Vice President, Transparency Services and International Affairs and Service, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, United States; Kristin Kaepplein, Director, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Securities and Exchange Commission, United States; Pascale Micolet-Marcel, Chief Representative, French Consumer Education Institute; Ricardo Nardini, Certificação e Educação de Investidores, Associação Nacional dos Bancos de Investimento, Brazil; Isabel Pastor, Senior Advisor, International Organization of Securities Commissions, Spain; Emily Pronin, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Public Affairs, Princeton University, United States (invited); Dr. Nik Ramlah Mik Mahmood, Managing Director, Securities Commission, Malaysia; Allen Rwakakooko, Legal & Compliance Manager, Capital Markets Authority, Uganda (invited); Dr. Ahmed Saad, Chairman, Capital Market Authority, Egypt; Fiona Stewart, Automatic Retirement Savings, Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, France (invited); Madhu Sudan Sahoo, Commissioner, Securities and Exchange Board of India; Jose Alexander Vasco - Superintendent (Head of the Investor Assistance and Education Department), Comissão de Valores Mobiliários, Brazil; Lois A. Vitt, Founding Director, Institute for Socio-Financial Studies, United States; Geraldine Walsh, Vice President for Investor Education, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, United States; Roberta Wilton, President and CEO, CSI Global Education Inc.; Susan Wolburgh Jenah, President and CEO, Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada; Maria Jose Gómez Yubero, Director of Investors, Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores, Spain; and Jonathan Zinman, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Dartmouth College, United States.

Please consult the IFIE/IOSCO conference Web page at <http://ifie.org/2009conference> for further updates on speakers, moderators and panelists.

IFIE and IOSCO held their first joint investor education conference in October 2007 in Madrid, Spain.

ABOUT THE GROUPS

Chartered in 2005, the International Forum for Investor Education (<http://www.ifie.org>) is a unique alliance that brings together private sector and public sector providers of investor education to improve the global standards for investor education. The Forum is accomplishing this objective by serving as a clearinghouse for the exchange of information between providers of investor education from different jurisdictions, including organizations that are just developing or planning to develop investor education programs. IFIE enables providers of investor education to learn about investment products and the investment process in the international financial market and about investor education programs in different parts of the world. In addition, IFIE encourages providers of investor education to remain current with trends in investor education by disseminating relevant research and other materials in membership meetings and via a dedicated Web site (<http://www.ifie.org>) and other channels.

The member agencies currently assembled together in the International Organization of Securities Commissions (<http://www.iosco.org>) have resolved, through its permanent structures: to cooperate together to promote high standards of regulation in order to maintain just, efficient and sound markets; to exchange information on their respective experiences in order to promote the development of domestic markets; to unite their efforts to establish standards and an effective surveillance of international securities transactions; to provide mutual assistance to promote the integrity of the markets by a rigorous application of the standards and by effective enforcement against offenses.

CONTACTS: Ailis Aaron Wolf, for IFIE, +1 (703) 276-3265 or aawolf@hastingsgroup.com; and David Cliffe, for IOSCO, + 34 91 787 0419 or d.cliffe@iosco.org.