

ANNOUNCEMENT

New warning regarding individuals impersonating CySEC representatives

Following up on its announcements dated <u>27 November 2015</u>, <u>10 June 2016</u> and <u>19 October 2016</u> and <u>17 November 2016</u>, the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission ('CySEC') would like to remind investors and the general public of the following:

- From time to time it comes to the attention of CySEC that unknown entities or individuals present themselves as CySEC or other Cypriot Supervisory Authorities, or of other jurisdictions, for the purpose of conducting illegal transactions.
- These entities or individuals contact investors that are clients of various supervised or other firms usually via email and, using the name and logo of CySEC as well as other untruthful contact information, promise to "assist" said investors in receiving compensation for potential damages incurred during their cooperation with the aforementioned firms, in exchange for a legal fee or other expenses.
- Recent instances that came to the attention of CySEC involve correspondence from the US, Canada and the Dominican Republic in which persons with fake names and contact information, and unauthorised use of the CySEC logo, attempt to convince recipients to pay fees to participate in fake aid programs for recovery of losses they might have suffered.
- CySEC would like to stress that it is not connected in any way with such entities or individuals, and that it never sends unsolicited correspondence to investors or members of the public requesting their personal and/or bank details and/or that they make any sort of financial transaction.
- Furthermore, CySEC clarifies that it does not authorize, verify, monitor, or is in any way involved in payments between natural or legal entities or any public or private agencies.
- CySEC urges the public to remain vigilant regarding such unsolicited communication, and in case they receive any that appears to be from CySEC but was not initiated by the recipient of such communication, and appears to ask for the transfer or payment of any amount, to confirm the authenticity of the communication by contacting info@cysec.gov.cy before taking any action.

■ Lastly, CySEC urges the members of the public that believe they may have already received such suspect communication to contact CySEC at info@cysec.gov.cy or report the case to the Police.

Nicosia, 8 March 2017