

Media Release

COLUMBIA THREADNEEDLE EXPANDS RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT OFFERING WITH THE LAUNCH OF EMERGING MARKETS ESG EQUITIES AND PAN EUROPEAN ESG EQUITIES FUNDS

LONDON, 15 OCTOBER 2020: Columbia Threadneedle Investments, a leading global asset management group, has expanded its fund range with the launch of the Threadneedle (Lux) Emerging Market ESG Equities and the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European ESG Equities funds¹. These fund launches are part of a strategic build-out of the firm's responsible investment offering.

William Davies, Chief Investment Officer, EMEA at Columbia Threadneedle Investments, said:

“Growing investor demand for strategies with a responsible investment orientation has proven to be one of the most significant shifts in asset management in a generation, and recent European sustainable finance regulations have only served to accelerate this trend. We are pleased to reflect these market developments by adding two new ESG funds to our responsible investment offering, to sit alongside our existing sustainable outcomes fund range.”

The Threadneedle (Lux) Emerging Market ESG Equities Fund is managed by Young Kim, Senior Portfolio Manager. Using Columbia Threadneedle's proprietary responsible investment ratings and research, and combining it with fundamental company analysis, Young will systematically apply Environmental, Social and Governance factors to identify growth opportunities and material risks in emerging market companies. He will focus on high quality innovative businesses which he believes can sustain high returns on capital and strong growth over the long term. He will also seek out companies with innovation at their core, which have the potential to gain competitive advantage, win market share and drive long-term growth by creating and embracing new ideas, processes and technology.

Young Kim, manager of the Threadneedle (Lux) Emerging Market ESG Equities Fund, said: “When sustainable business attributes form the foundations of a company's character, they tend to inform

¹ From 2 October 2020, as well as the changes to the investment objective and policy, the name of the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European Equities has changed to Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European ESG Equities.

business strategy and result in long-term sustainable practices. A growing number of companies in emerging markets now recognise the value of adopting ESG business practices and the potential positive effect it can have on generating additional shareholder returns. By evaluating a company through the ESG lens, we can gain a comprehensive understanding of how ESG risks are considered and used to sustain its long-term future. This explicit focus on long-term opportunities and risks emanating from ESG factors, combined with our active management approach, has the potential to deliver better risk-adjusted returns for our clients.”

The second fund, the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European ESG Equities Fund, is a conversion of the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European Equities Fund. It will continue to be managed by Ann Steele and Dan Ison, who have been increasing the intensity of ESG analysis in the fund over the past 18 months. The managers aim to deliver capital growth by investing in companies with sustainable competitive advantages and strong operating practices.

Ann Steele, Co-Manager of the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European ESG Equities Fund, said:

“While the market is still assessing the long-term consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, ESG issues – particularly the significant social impact – have become even more important. They are a key part of the new economic reality, as regulatory oversight covering emissions and social responsibility will continue to grow. We have always successfully focused on high-quality companies with a strong competitive advantage, pricing power and high barriers to entry. Incorporating ESG factors into the definition of quality has been a natural evolution, helping to boost outperformance. The fund conversion is testament to our success in increasing the intensity of our ESG analysis.”

Columbia Threadneedle’s new ESG funds complement its existing sustainable outcomes fund range, including the firm’s UK and Global Sustainable Equity strategies, the Social Bond strategies and its European Sustainable Infrastructure and Carbon Neutral Real Estate strategies.

Last year Columbia Threadneedle launched proprietary responsible investment ratings that provide its global investment team with a robust responsible investment framework and enhanced analysis of over 5,500 companies around the world. The ratings combine financial stewardship and ESG factors into a single forward-looking investment signal, helping to identify and assess potentially material risks and opportunities in addition to what may be captured by conventional analysis.

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Notes to Editors

About the Threadneedle (Lux) Emerging Market ESG Equities fund

Structure: UCITS, Luxembourg SICAV
Fund base currency: USD

Minimum investment: EUR 1,500,000 (Class Z (Platforms))
EUR 100,000 (Class I (Institutional))

Estimated Ongoing Charges Figure: 1.05% (Class Z)
0.80% (Class I)

(Please see prospectus for all available share classes)

Initially registered in Luxembourg, Sweden and UK, the Fund is intended for distribution across other markets (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland) pending regulatory approval in each country.

About the Threadneedle (Lux) Pan European ESG Equities fund

Structure: UCITS, Luxembourg SICAV
Fund base Currency: EUR

Minimum investment: EUR 1,500,000 (Class Z (Platforms))
EUR 100,000 (Class I (Institutional))

Estimated Ongoing Charges Figure: 1.00% (Class Z)
0.80% (Class I)

(Please see prospectus for all available share classes)

Registered in Luxembourg, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and UK.

For media enquiries please contact:

Nicolas Duperrier
+44 (0)20 7464 5940

Nicolas.Duperrier@columbiathreadneedle.com

Wendy Svirakova
+44 (0)20 7464 5697

Wendy.Svirakova@columbiathreadneedle.com

About Columbia Threadneedle Investments

Columbia Threadneedle Investments is a leading global asset manager that provides a broad range of actively managed investment strategies and solutions for individual, institutional and corporate clients around the world.

With more than 2000 people including over 450 investment professionals based in North America, Europe and Asia, we manage £385bn / €424bn (as at 30 June 2020) of assets across developed and emerging market equities, fixed income, asset allocation solutions and alternatives.

Our priority is the investment success of our clients. We know investors want strong and repeatable risk-adjusted returns and we aim to deliver this through an active and consistent investment approach that is team-based, risk-aware and performance-driven. Our investment teams around the world work together to uncover investment insights. By sharing knowledge across asset classes and geographies we generate richer perspectives on global, regional and local investment landscapes. The ability to exchange and debate investment ideas in a collaborative environment enriches our teams' investment processes to ensure the best insights are applied to portfolios. More importantly it results in better informed decisions for our clients.

Columbia Threadneedle Investments is the global asset management group of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. (NYSE:AMP), a leading US-based financial services provider. As part of Ameriprise, we are supported by a large and well-capitalised diversified financial services firm.

www.columbiathreadneedle.com

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Threadneedle (Lux) is an investment company with variable capital (Société d'investissement à capital variable, or "SICAV") formed under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The SICAV issues, redeems and exchanges shares of different classes. The management company of the SICAV is Threadneedle Management Luxembourg S.A., who is advised by Threadneedle Asset Management Ltd. and/or selected sub-advisors.

Certain sub-funds of the SICAV are registered in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Macau, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK; however, this is subject to applicable jurisdictions and some sub-funds and/or share classes may not be available in all jurisdictions. Shares in the Funds may not be offered to the public in any other country and this document must not be issued, circulated or distributed other than in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public and are in accordance with applicable local legislation.

Threadneedle (Lux) is authorised in Spain by the Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores (CNMV) and registered with the relevant CNMV's Registered with number 177.

Shares in the Funds may not be offered, sold or delivered directly or indirectly in the United States or to or for the account or benefit of any "U.S. Person", as defined in Regulation S under the 1933 Act.

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Subscriptions to a Fund may only be made on the basis of the current Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document, as well as the latest annual or interim reports and the applicable terms & conditions. Please refer to the 'Risk Factors' section of the Prospectus for all risks applicable to investing in any fund and specifically this Fund. Documents other than KIIDs are available in English, French, German, Portuguese, Italian, Spanish and Dutch (no Dutch Prospectus). KIIDs are available in local languages. Documents can be obtained free of charge on request by writing to the management company at 44, rue de la Vallée, L-2661 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, from International Financial Data Services (Luxembourg) S.A. at 47, avenue John F. Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, from www.columbiathreadneedle.com and/or from:

- in Austria from Erste Bank, Graben 21 A-1010 Vienna;
- in Belgium: CACEIS Belgium S.A., avenue du Port 86 C b 320, 1000 Brussels
- in France from CACEIS Bank, 1/3 Place Valhubert, 75013 Paris;
- in Germany from JP Morgan AG, Junghofstr. 14, 60311 Frankfurt;
- in Sweden from Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ), Kungsträdgårdsgatan, SE-10640 Stockholm, Sweden;
- in the UK from JPMorgan Worldwide Securities Services, 60 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0JP.

Het compartiment is op grond van artikel 1:107 van de Wet op het financieel toezicht opgenomen in het register dat wordt gehouden door de Autoriteit Financiële Markten. / Pursuant to article 1:107 of the Act of Financial Supervision, the subfund is included in the register that is kept by the AFM.

Subscriptions to a Fund may only be made on the basis of the current Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document, as well as the latest annual or interim reports, which can be obtained free of charge on request, and the applicable terms & conditions.

Please refer to the 'Risk Factors' section of the Prospectus for all risks applicable to investing in any fund and specifically this Fund. The above documents and the instrument of incorporation are available on request from our representative and Paying Agent in Switzerland, RBC Investor Services Bank S.A., Esch-sur-Alzette, Zurich branch, Bleicherweg 7, CH 8027 Zurich.

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Columbia Threadneedle Investments is the global brand name of the Columbia and Threadneedle group of companies.