



PRESS RELEASE

11 June 2014

EVFIN New Steering Committee Appointed

Athens, 10 June 2014 – Today members of the European Venture Fund Investors Network (EVFIN) have appointed a new steering committee. Stephan Morais has been named as the new Chairman, succeeding Jouni Hakala after his one-year tenure. Jouni Hakala will continue to serve the Network as 2nd Deputy Chairman for a further year alongside Isabelle Bébéar appointed as first Deputy Chairman.

Stephan Morais said: “It is a great honor to be chosen as the next Chairman of a Network that represents over € 27 billion of assets under management. With a newly elected Parliament since last May and soon a new college of Commissioners, new EU policy priorities are to be set. EVFIN will endeavor to highlight the critical role that venture capital plays in boosting growth potential of the EU economy but also challenges that must be addressed urgently: bring private investors back to the market, promote a single EU venture market, and enhance performance and professionalism of venture funds. To this end, my efforts will be focused on fostering cooperation between long term investors both public and private, acting as a partner to other industry institutions and to EU Institutions with respect to EU policies and implementation of relevant EU programmes”.

Stephan Morais is an Executive Director at Caixa Capital, the Private Equity and Venture Capital fund management company of Caixa Geral de Depósitos with 750 Million Euros under management, where he leads Venture Capital and co-leads Private Equity investments. With a diversified background as an investment banker, consultant, entrepreneur and CEO, he has lived in 8 countries and 4 continents over the last 18 years. He is a non-Executive Director and Advisor to numerous innovative companies and member of Investment Committees of several VC and PE funds. Appointed as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2010, he holds a degree in Engineering from Instituto Superior Técnico (Lisbon), and an MBA from the Harvard Business School.

Isabelle Bébéar is the Director in charge of Business Development and International Affairs at Bpifrance, the French public investment bank. Before that, she was head of regional fund of fund investments at CDC Enterprises, a 100% subsidiary of the Caisse des Dépôts Group, with near €300m under management. Isabelle previously worked in the pharmaceutical industry, as international human resources manager. Isabelle graduated from the Institut Supérieur de Gestion (International business school).

Jouni Hakala today acts as Director of New Investment Opportunities and Public Affairs at Finnish Industry Investment, the government-owned investment company in Finland. Prior to that, he acted as State Secretary at the Ministry of Employment and the Economy. Jouni has almost a 20 year-experience in private equity and finance and used to serve among others as Fund Investment Director at Finnish Industry Investment but also as Head of Equity Investments at European Investment Fund.

PRESS CONTACT

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ABOUT EVFIN

EVFIN is a platform for dialogue launched in 2011 by major investors in venture capital (VC). It gathers 12 national and regional venture capital operators, mostly public funds of funds, whose mission is to foster equity financing for SMEs. EVFIN objective is to enable sharing of best practices between its members, to contribute to the EU public debate on improving access to finance for SMEs. Altogether, its members have more than € 27 billion of assets under management. Those are: AWS (Austria); Caixa Capital (Portugal); Capital Dynamics (UK); British Business Bank (UK); Bpifrance (France); Enterprise Ireland (Ireland); Finnish Industry Investment (Finland); Krajowy Fundusz Kapitałowy (KFK - Poland); MFB Invest (Hungary); New Economy Development Fund - TANEQ (Greece); PMV (Belgium) ; Société régionale d'investissement de Wallonie (SRIW - Belgium).

About Caixa Capital

Caixa Capital is the Private Equity and Venture Capital fund management company of Portugal's largest banking group Caixa Geral de Depósitos, present in over 20 countries and with assets above 120 billion Euros. With a total of close to 750 million Euros under management, Caixa Capital invests in growth equity and venture capital opportunities and funds. The Venture Capital team partners with incubators, accelerators and business angels for seed and startup investments and with major international venture funds for opportunities above 1 million Euros. The team aims to support global expansion of Portugal related teams and companies and has dedicated team members to ICT, digital, health tech, engineering and clean tech investments.

About Bpifrance

Formed by the law of 31 December 2012, Bpifrance (a public sector investment bank) is the outcome of the merger between OSEO, the FSI, CDC Entreprises and FSI Régions. Its two shareholders are the French state and the Caisse des Dépôts bank. Bpifrance finances businesses from the seed phase to transfer to stock exchange listing, through loans, guarantees and equity. Bpifrance also provides enhanced support and backing for innovation, export, and external growth. With its 42 regional offices, it is a one-stop shop for entrepreneurs in each region for all their finance and investment needs. Bpifrance also participates in the management of several European funding programmes. www.bpifrance.fr - Follow us on Twitter: @bpifrance

About Finnish Industry Investment Ltd - Finland

Finnish Industry Investment is a government-owned investment company. Its mission is to promote Finnish business, employment and economic growth through venture capital and private equity investments. Finnish Industry Investment invests in venture capital and private equity funds and directly in growth companies. The investment focus is on growth, internationalisation, spin-offs, major industrial investments, as well as sectoral and corporate restructurings. The company invests in all industry sectors, and always together with private co-investors. The investments of Finnish Industry Investment amount to €670m.