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Press Release

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MilleniumAssociates Expands its Japanese & Asian Reach by Naming Koji Fusa as Latest Member of its Global Advisory Board

MilleniumAssociates AG, the Swiss based independent international M&A Advisory firm to the global financial services industry, has appointed Koji Fusa as a member of its Global Advisory Board.

Koji Fusa is the founder and CEO of Sandringham Capital Partners, a private equity and hedge fund company focused on Japan. Previously, Koji Fusa has held senior assignments in investment banking in Japan; in particular he was Managing Director for mergers and acquisitions and the origination of equity underwriting for both UBS and CSFB for their respective operations in Japan. He has served and still serves as Director for several Japanese companies. Mr. Fusa holds a Bachelor of Engineering from Waseda University.

Ray Soudah, founder of MilleniumAssociates (and himself a Japan veteran), said, "Koji Fusa is an extremely well qualified and experienced financial executive with a high level of experience in the international financial services industry and with a detailed in-depth knowledge of the financial services sector in Japan and in Asia at large. His addition will considerably strengthen MilleniumAssociates' capabilities and extend the global reach of Millenium Associates' network over Japan and Asia that will clearly see renewed and increased interest and activity in future after the now foreseeable end of the long deflationary recession.

Koji Fusa stated, "MilleniumAssociates has truly become the leading Swiss based independent M&A adviser in the wealth management and financial services industry. I am delighted to be associated with this truly independent firm with a prime international reputation and global reach, and which, whilst Swiss based, has demonstrated its ability to serve the financial services industry in a specialist and professional way on a global basis."

Fusa added: "The current take-up in Japan and the waive of renewed interest in the Japanese Financial Services Sector creates a clear opportunity for an independent and sophisticated M&A advisory firm such as MilleniumAssociates to offer its un-conflicted expertise to the local industry players or to foreign players interested to assess and safeguard their options in the Japanese market".

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Note to Editors

MilleniumAssociates is the only Swiss based independent M&A global advisory firm specialising in Mergers and Acquisitions and strategy consulting for the financial services industry exclusively. MilleniumAssociates' fully dedicated team of specialists are currently involved in numerous active financial services advisory projects with assignments supporting clients with expanding global strategies, as well as those seeking to determine their ideal strategic options including partnerships , alliances and IPO plans. The firm donates at least one percent of annual gross profits to charity.

Selected previous assignments of MilleniumAssociates include:

- Sale on behalf of Dexia-BIL of Dexia Private Banking (UK) to Rathbone Brothers plc (UK)
- Sale of Abacus Financial Services Group Limited, Jersey, to Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
- Sale of Helix Associates Limited, UK, to Jefferies Group, Inc., USA
- Sale on behalf of Dexia-BIL of its French IFA subsidiary Dexia Partenaires France to French insurance group CNP Assurances
- Sale of Seydler AG Wertpapierhandelsbank, Frankfurt/Germany, to Close Brothers Group plc, UK
- Acquisition by Barclays Bank plc of the Wealth Business of ING Securities Bank (France)
- Sale on behalf of Caixa Holding SA, Crédit Andorra SA and Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg SA of their joint subsidiary, Société Monégasque de Banque Privée, Monaco, to BNP Paribas Private Bank (Switzerland) SA.
- Acquisition of a majority stake in Charlotte Capital Management by Sanders Morris Harris Group, Houston, Texas.
- Acquisition of the Luxembourg private banking business of Oldenburgische Landesbank, a subsidiary of Dresdner Bank, by Landesbank Rheinland-Pfalz International SA, Luxembourg.
- Strategic consultant and advisor to Compagnie Bancaire Genève (CBG) which subsequently sold a 67% stake to Société Générale.
- Acquisiton of Lloyds Bank SA, the French wealth management business of the British bank Lloyds TSB, by UBS AG.
- Acquisition by Robeco of a majority stake in Boston Partners Asset Management LP.
- Acquisition of Chicago-based Frye-Louis Capital Management Inc by Credit Suisse.
- Acquisition of JO Hambro Investment Management, UK, by Credit Suisse.

For further information see under <u>www.MilleniumAssociates.com</u>

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