

# KAZAKHSTAN STOCK EXCHANGE

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Kazakhstan Stock Exchange Becomes Partner Exchange to the United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative**

On September 24, 2015 Kazakhstan Stock Exchange became partner exchange to the United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative (SSE Initiative).

SSE Initiative originally was created by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2009. The SSE Initiative offers a global platform for exchanges to show leadership and understanding of the sustainability-related opportunities and challenges facing the capital markets today.

The initiative co-convened by the United Nations supported Principles for Responsible Investment, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative and the United Nations Global Compact. More than 20 leading exchanges from all continents have joined this initiative named "the best sustainability idea" by the Forbes magazine.

Participation in SSE Initiative will provide Kazakhstan Stock Exchange with an access to global experience in the field of improving the transparency and stability of capital markets. Kazakhstan Stock Exchange is joining the SSE Initiative in line with Kazakhstan's determination to promote an efficient and sustainable development of financial organizations and companies from the real sector of the country's economy. Joining the initiative will help support the sustainability ideas of the government of Kazakhstan and Central Bank, promoting good corporate governance, as well as environmentally and socially sustainable market as fundamentals for development of the International Financial Center "Astana".

"Kazakhstan Stock Exchange is pleased to join SSE Initiative. Undoubtedly, the stock market sustainable development is very important to the country's economic growth. By joining this initiative we will be able to contribute much more into sustainable development of country's economy and will gain access to additional information on sustainability that we could further distribute among our clients from financial and real sectors of Kazakhstani economy," said Kazakhstan Stock Exchange CEO Mr. Yeszhan Birtanov.

The SSE Initiative invites exchanges around the world to become a partner stock exchange by making a voluntary public commitment to promote improved ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) disclosure and performance among their issuers, market intermediaries and investors.

Likewise, SSE Initiative encourages securities regulators and other key stakeholders to become the members of the organization.

#### **Reference**

SSE Initiative is a peer-to-peer learning platform for exploring how exchanges, in collaboration with investors, regulators, and companies, can enhance corporate transparency – and ultimately performance – on ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) issues and encourage sustainable investment.

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange is one of the leading stock exchanges in CIS region with more than 80 companies having their securities listed and more than 40 broker organizations trading on securities market. Kazakhstan Stock Exchange is the only exchange in Kazakhstan operating the financial market. It is a multi-asset trading platform organizing trades in government and corporate securities, repo market instruments, foreign currencies, bonds of international financial institutions. Kazakhstan, being the leading financial market on the territory of Central Asia is aimed at developing as the financial center and as a hub for Islamic finance in the region.

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange is the member of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS) and other international professional associations.