



## **EU-Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Regulation Joint Statement – 21 February**

**Since 2016, the EU-Asia-Pacific Forum brings together policymakers and financial authorities from the EU and Asia Pacific jurisdictions on an annual basis to discuss financial regulatory and supervisory developments of mutual interest, to foster cooperation between EU authorities and competent authorities from Asia Pacific jurisdictions.**

**The 9th edition of the EU-Asia-Pacific Forum was held in a hybrid format in Da Nang, Vietnam, on Friday 21 February 2025. This year's Forum was co-chaired by Ms. Julia Leung, Chief Executive Officer, Securities and Futures Commission, Hong Kong and Chair of the International Organization of Securities Commissions' Asia-Pacific Regional Committee (IOSCO APRC), and Ms. Nathalie De Basaldua, Director, General Affairs, DG FISMA, European Commission. As the host, Ms. Vu Thi Chan Phuong, Chairperson of the State Securities Commission of Vietnam also delivered opening remarks.**

19 jurisdictions of the IOSCO APRC took part in the Forum. The EU was also represented by the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), which played a key role as lead discussant. Ms. Verena Ross, the Chair of ESMA, delivered the closing remarks, alongside Ms. Julia Leung.

The event has been an opportunity to discuss cross-border cooperation in financial regulation and supervision. Participants from the different regions provided updates on important trends and key regulatory and market developments in their respective jurisdictions. Participants noted the importance of consistent implementation of international standards as an essential condition for the resilience and for the good functioning of international financial markets.

The participating authorities focused mainly on two main themes: digital finance and sustainable finance. On digital finance, participants updated each other on latest regulatory developments in crypto-assets, tokenisation and artificial intelligence (AI). The EU gave an update on the Markets in Crypto-Assets regulation (MiCA), which came fully into effect on 30 December 2024. Participants explored potential risks and opportunities as well as areas of cross-border collaboration.

The meeting then covered developments in the area of sustainable finance within their respective jurisdictions, and in particular related to ongoing efforts to implement sustainability reporting obligations, where the importance of interoperability was emphasised in order to enhance comparability and reduce

the burden on reporting entities. Participants also shared updates on enhancing the transparency, comparability, quality, and reliability of Environmental, Social and Governance information, including in the context of ratings.

Participants reaffirmed the importance of the cross-border cooperation between regions and agreed to engage further on the various topics discussed during the meeting, as well as on the other topics of mutual interest in view of the next Forum meeting.