



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Axia Ventures Group sponsors and participates in the third Greek Investment Forum in New York entitled 'GR_FOR_GROWTH'

New York, USA - 12 June 2014 – The third Greek Investment Forum that took place in New York on the 11th and 12th of June proved to be a big success. The Forum, suitably entitled "GR_FOR_GROWTH", was co-organized by the Athens Stock Exchange and the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce with Axia Ventures Group ('AXIA') participating as gold sponsor.

In addition of 80 funds attended the Forum, with more than 110 investment professionals inquiring about the investment opportunities offered by Greece today. This number was significantly higher than last year, when 68 funds with 86 analysts / fund managers participated. In total, around 540 meetings were scheduled with Greek companies, compared to 350 meetings last year.

The conference began with the introductory statements of the President of the Athens Stock Exchange, Mr. Socrates Lazaridis, and the President of the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Simos Anastasopoulos, both of whom stressed that the business climate in Greece is improving rapidly. Specifically, Mr. Anastasopoulos pointed out that: *"Following six difficult years of recession the country is back on track. The country, perhaps for the first time in its history, has followed a steady and pre-described plan to restore its credibility and its economy. It was a difficult path...[but] we have emerged with economic stability restored and a successful return to the markets. The debt remains the last obstacle to the country's course to growth and prosperity... We will enter in negotiations about the Greek debt in September and are expected to reach an agreement until the end of the year. This ladies and gentlemen will close the window of opportunity as by that time the risk of investing in the Greek economy will become minimal."*

During his own brief speech, Mr. Lazaridis noted that data now confirms the significant progress of the Greek economy and this has been depicted in the performance of the stock market. Mr. Lazaridis highlighted the increased liquidity in the market as portrayed by the y-o-y increase in the traded value. The President of the Athens Stock Exchange also noted the need to use the increased interest for investments in Greece so as to accelerate the growth prospects of the economy.

The keynote speakers of the Forum were Mr. George Zanias, Chairman of the Hellenic Bank Association, and Mr. Matthew Murray, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Europe, Middle East and Africa, U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade. Mr. Zanias highlighted the achievements of the Greek economy but also the positive prospects on the critical issues going forward. He also stressed the significant growth potential of the economy as Greece leverages on its competitive advantages in traditional sectors (tourism, shipping, manufacturing – food processing, energy, agriculture/aquaculture, retail/wholesale and oil refining) and also in emerging sectors (chemicals, up market tourism, regional cargo hub activities, real estate, financials, health services and energy exploration).

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In his speech, Mr. Murray referred to the close business ties between the two countries and the impact these will have on the Greek economy. Mr. Murray said that: *"I am happy to point out that this open and constructive approach with, and toward, business has helped Greece attract new US investments recently. In the past six months alone, US companies IBM, Microsoft, Coca-Cola and Onex Technologies have announced significant investment projects in Greece that they say will generate hundreds of jobs."*

It is worth noting that the Forum had extensive media coverage by Bloomberg, CNN International, Economist, Fox Business Network, Thomson Reuters and Wall Street Journal.

About Axia Ventures Group Ltd.

Axia Ventures Group ("AXIA") is a privately-owned investment banking group providing financial advisory and capital market-related services to corporate and institutional clients. AXIA is headquartered in Nicosia, Cyprus, regulated by the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (License No: 086/07) and fully licensed to provide financial advisory services in significant financial markets around the world. AXIA is focused in Cyprus, Greece and the broader region. AXIA has presence in Nicosia (Headquarters), Athens (Branch), New York (subsidiary) and also maintains a representative office in London. For more information on AXIA and its services, you can visit the AXIA website at <http://www.axiavg.com/>

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