Industry backs listed infrastructure group to help bridge the infrastructure investment gap

**Brussels: July 2016** – The Global Listed Infrastructure Organization (GLIO), a new representative body formed to help address global infrastructure’s funding gap, has been launched today in Brussels. GLIO is the first widely-backed industry group for listed infrastructure.

With a US$60 trillion investment requirement, global infrastructure offers an untapped opportunity during the next 15 years relative to other asset classes. As the McKinsey analysis suggests that government funding in infrastructure will fall well short, GLIO has an important role to play.

Fraser Hughes, the CEO of the Brussels-based GLIO, said: “Given the importance of more effective financing for infrastructure, it is clear that the global listed infrastructure industry needs to find a common voice to promote itself successfully to investors, consultants, and policy-makers.”

Mr Hughes quoted IMF estimates that every US$1 efficiently invested in infrastructure drives US$3 worth of output. “Indeed, this sector’s funding development can be an engine for global economic growth. Initially a large part of GLIO’s work will be in education and broadening the understanding about how the listed sector is positioned to provide that impetus,” he said.

The benefits of global listed infrastructure include attractive stable regulated revenue streams, global diversification across regions and infrastructure-related subsectors, liquidity and the transparency of public markets. Major specialist infrastructure investors are highly supportive of GLIO’s objectives.

Manoj Patel, co-Head of Listed Infrastructure at Deutsche Asset Management commented: “We see the establishment of a dedicated industry organisation as a necessary step to help the asset-class develop and evolve, by promoting the benefits of listed infrastructure investment to the global investment community.”

Ben Morton, co-Head of Listed Infrastructure at Cohen & Steers, agreed. “The launch of an organization focusing on listed infrastructure investment is long overdue - we are very pleased to be involved from the outset,” he said.

Richard Tollis, Head of EMEIA Infrastructure at EY, sees a positive in widening investor choice. Mr Tollis said: “GLIO will contribute to the broader understanding of the infrastructure asset class in its own right, and I believe it can co-operate with private infrastructure investment to create a broader palate of options for investors in the future.”
Education and information availability are GLIO priorities from the outset, given the limited understanding of the asset-class and its definitions. Tim Humphreys, Head of Global Listed Infrastructure at AMP Capital, said: “We have spent a lot of time over the years educating investors as to the benefits of listed infrastructure investment and, undoubtedly, the establishment of an independent organization like GLIO will bolster this education push.”

Jeremy Anagnos, CIO of Listed Infrastructure at CBRE Clarion Securities believes that a focus on education will benefit the growth of the infrastructure market. “Investment to upgrade and replace ageing infrastructure will increasingly be undertaken by listed infrastructure companies. In working with listed companies to highlight their efforts, the GLIO will play a key role in increasing investors awareness and supporting the continued growth of the asset class.”

The foundation supporters of the organisation are committed to grow the GLIO network during the next 18 months, with a major part of the focus on encouraging support from the listed infrastructure companies themselves.

Anko Gerlofs, Head of Equity Research at Kempen & Co, gave further insight: “In the coming months we will be working with GLIO to encourage listed Infrastructure companies in Europe to lend their support to the organisation. It is critical that all parties pull together to support and promote the asset-class.”

David Stanford, Partner at Real Foundations, added: “We see listed infrastructure as a much broader extension of our work in the real estate space – they are ‘natural cousins’ under the real assets umbrella. We will work with GLIO to promote the initiative to listed companies in North America.”

The foundation supporters of GLIO are AMP Capital, CBRE Clarion Securities, Cohen & Steers, CenterSquare Investment Management, Deutsche Asset Management, EY, Kempen & Co, Macquarie, Morgan Stanley, Nuveen Investments and Real Foundations.

GLIO is a global independent organisation supported by annual subscription fees and guided by an active global advisory board.

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About GLIO:

The Global Listed Infrastructure Organisation (GLIO) is the representative organisation for global listed infrastructure investors, companies and those associated with the asset class. Global listed infrastructure represents approximately $1.5 trillion in market capitalization. The mission of GLIO is to act as a central global platform for information, education, promotion and representation. GLIO will work to ensure a better understanding of the long-term benefits of infrastructure investment via listed infrastructure companies. GLIO is a global independent organisation supported by annual subscription fees and guided by an active global advisory board.

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