

PRESS RELEASE

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IIGCC announces new board members as investors look to a net zero emissions future

London: The Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) is announcing five new board members, to coincide with its Annual General Meeting (AGM). The seniority of appointees reflects the importance placed on climate change by the investment community and the impact of IIGCC in addressing the issue.

The new board members announced are:

- Jelle van der Giessen, *Chief Investment Officer, NN Group*
- Roelfien Kuijpers, *Head of Responsible Investments and Head of Global Client Group for Ireland, Scandinavia and UK, DWS*
- Karlijn van Lierop, *Director for Responsible Investment and member of Management Fiduciary Advice, MN*
- Dr Udo Riese, *Global Head of Risk and Monitoring, Allianz Investment Management SE*
- Ian Simm, *Founder and Chief Executive, Impax Asset Management*

Changes to the board come at an important time for IIGCC as membership growth is matched by a clearer appreciation of the significant role investors play in addressing climate change. 33 new members have joined IIGCC over the past year, including some of the leading names in the sector, adding €7 trillion in assets represented¹. IIGCC now has over 190 members in total, with over €28 trillion in assets collectively under management.

The new board members were confirmed at IIGCC's AGM, which focused on pathways to net zero emissions by 2050². Speakers, including UK President Designate of COP26 Claire O'Neill and Christiana Figueres, Convener, Mission 2020 and Former Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, set out the importance of meeting this objective.

"Investors have a crucial contribution to make in the transition to a more sustainable future," explains **Stephanie Pfeifer, CEO, IIGCC**. "While there is so much to achieve, it's clear the sector is more determined than ever to play its part. Our new board members join IIGCC at an important time as we build on this momentum to ensure we realise a net zero future."

The AGM also provided an opportunity to update members on IIGCC's activities and its priorities for the year ahead. These are also captured in its 2019 [Annual Report](#), launched at the AGM.

"We need to accelerate the pace of change in decarbonising the global economy. This requires action from policy makers, the corporate sector and of course investors themselves," adds **Peter Damgaard Jensen, IIGCC, Chair and CEO of Danish pension fund PKA**. "I'm proud to see IIGCC lead investor action across all of these fronts, in Europe and globally. The benefits of action on climate change are without doubt and it's our fiduciary responsibility to play as full a role as possible in ensuring we successfully tackle the climate crisis."

IIGCC has made a significant contribution to investor action on climate change over the past year. The [Paris Aligned Investment Initiative](#) is defining the approaches needed to enable the sector to

align portfolios with a net zero emissions future. 60 members with over €13 trillion of assets under management are now actively contributing to this initiative. In addition, IIGCC and its members have played an instrumental role in encouraging companies to make [commitments](#) on climate change through the global [Climate Action 100+](#) corporate engagement initiative. IIGCC's policy engagement continues to ensure the investor voice on climate change helps shape sustainable finance and climate policy, both globally and at a European level.

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Notes to Editors

1. Examples of new IIGCC members joining over the past year include: the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, PIMCO, Franklin Resources, Allianz Investment Management SE, Aberdeen Standard Investments and Storebrand, among others. See page 15 of IIGCC's 2019 Annual Report available [here](#) for details of all new members.

2. Changes to the IIGCC Board have taken place in line with its Article of Association as a membership body. The new board members join those already appointed who are staying on in this role, namely:

- Peter Damgaard Jensen, Chair and CEO of PKA
- Erik Kleväng Callert, Group Chief Investment Officer, Nordea Group
- Helena Vines Fiestas, Global Head of Stewardship and Policy at BNP Paribas Asset Management, BNP Paribas Asset Management
- Grégoire Haenni, Chief Investment Officer, Caisse de Prévoyance de l'Etat de Genève
- Adam Matthews, Director of Ethics and Engagement, Church of England Pensions Board

About IIGCC: The [Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change](#) (IIGCC) is the European membership body for investor collaboration on climate change and the voice of investors taking action for a prosperous, low-carbon future. IIGCC has more than 190 members, mainly pension funds and asset managers, across 14 countries, with over €28 trillion assets under management.

Our mission is to mobilise capital for the low carbon transition and to ensure resilience to the impacts of a changing climate by collaborating with business, policy makers and fellow investors. IIGCC works to support and help define the public policies, investment practices and corporate behaviours that address the long-term risks and opportunities associated with climate change.

For more information visit www.iigcc.org and [@iigccnews](#).