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PRESS RELEASE

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, STEWARDSHIP AND SHAREHOLDER VOTING AT THE HEART OF TWO INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN ROME**

*The IOC Annual Forum will take place for the very first time in person on October 11. The three-day Auxiliary Corporate Governance Conference, hosted by Assogestioni, will follow*

This coming October Rome will set the stage of the very premiere of a series of events that will convene in the Italian capital some of the world's most influential corporate governance professionals, academics and experts, and will fuel the debate and discussions on trends and best practices in this space.

### **IOC Annual Forum – October 11, 2022**

On October 11, at the Auditorium of the Ara Pacis Museum, Assogestioni will host the Annual Forum organised by the **Independent Oversight Committee (IOC)**, appointed by the **Best Practice Principles Group (BPPG)** to provide an annual review of the adherence to the Best Practice Principles and the public compliance statements that each BPP Signatory applies when advising on shareholder voting. The 2022 report will be presented on this occasion. The advisory activity of the five BPPG members engages over 25,000 companies all over the world, including 200 in Italy, for a grand total of more than 30,000 ordinary and extraordinary shareholders meetings, of which 300 in Italy, and a client base of 1,300 clients which manage around \$40 trillion AuM.

The Forum, which will take place in person for the very first time, under the guidance of **Stephen Davis, IOC Chair and Senior Fellow of Harvard Law School**, will represent the most important dialogue opportunity amongst global investors, issuers, regulators and stakeholders on shareholding voting, with a view to sustainable value creation.

### **AUXILIARY CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE – October 12-14, 2022**

In the three following days, Assogestioni will organise the **Auxiliary Corporate Governance Conference**, under the patronage of the **Ministry of Economy and**



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**Finance (MEF)** and **CONSOB** (the public authority responsible for regulating the Italian financial markets), which will take place at the Auditorium of the Ara Pacis Museum in Rome as well, and will be divided into two events.

The first one, scheduled on October 12, will consist of a series of round tables where speakers from some of the most prominent listed Italian companies will have the chance to discuss and interact with the most relevant international investors on breaking topics, such as sustainability, climate change and remuneration.

The conference will end with two academic days (October 13 and 14), arranged under the scientific guidance of **Professors Luca Enriques (University of Oxford)** and **Giovanni Strampelli (Bocconi University)**, that will aim to promote the debate on best practices in terms of engagement between institutional investors and Boards of Directors of listed companies. Experts and academics from all over the world will contribute to the realisation of the first international book about the dialogue between listed companies and investors, which will be published by **Cambridge University Press**.

*“The relevance of institutional investors is constantly growing and nowadays represents over 40% of capital of global listed companies. As a consequence, the importance of advisory for shareholding voting is rising too, as it allows investors to actively engage into the governance of a multitude of companies they invest in”, **Fabio Galli, Director General at Assogestioni**, says, adding: “We’re honoured to see how the deepness of the debate around corporate governance in Italy led to the choice of our country as location for the in-person debut of these important events. Welcoming the global markets’ leading players to talk about topics such as corporate governance, stewardship and shareholder voting means to give Italian listed companies a unique interaction opportunity, which will put under the spotlight the attractive allure of the Italian systems and its excellences”.*

Both events will be broadcasted live on **FR|Vision**. For registrations, agendas and more info please visit:

- [IOC Annual Forum website](#)
- [Auxiliary Corporate Governance Conference website](#)

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### **BEST PRACTICE PRINCIPLES GROUP - BPPG**

The purpose of the BPPG is to promote greater understanding of the proxy research industry by developing and regularly updating a set of Best Practice Principles for Providers of Shareholder Voting Research & Analysis that signatories to the Principles should adopt on a comply-or-explain basis. BPPG launched the first edition of the Principles in 2014, with the current version issued in 2019. The current BPPG Members are Federated Hermes (EOS), Glass Lewis, ISS, Minerva Analytics and PIRC.

### **INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - IOC**

In 2019 the BBPG appointed the IOC to provide an annual review of the Best Practice Principles and the public compliance statements of each BPP Signatory. The IOC's purpose is to independently assure international markets that firms in the proxy voting research and advisory industry are meeting agreed best practices and serving the interests of their investor customers while treating issuers and other stakeholders fairly, with accuracy, integrity, and responsiveness. The IOC is comprised of its Independent Chair, Dr. Stephen Davis, and six institutional investor representatives, three public company representatives, and two independent academic representatives.

### **ASSOGESTIONI – ITALIAN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Assogestioni is the Italian investment management association. Established in 1984, the Association pursues the promotion, expansion and protection of the various forms of investment management in Italy, including retirement provision, and the growth of the related culture with a view to supporting economic and financial market growth and to protecting the interests of investors. Focusing on both representation, promotion and protection of the collective interests of its members and their investor customers, both in Italy and abroad. Today, it represents over €2,300 billion in assets under management.