

## Media Release

### Credit Suisse presents its 15<sup>th</sup> Asian Investment Conference on March 19-23

Welcomes over 2,000 public and private sector decision-makers to Hong Kong, bringing the global agenda to Asia Pacific

Hong Kong, March 5, 2012 **Credit Suisse today announced its strongest ever line-up of speakers for its 15<sup>th</sup> annual Asian Investment Conference (AIC). The aim of the conference this year is to provide insight into the recent global economic turmoil, the impact this has had on the Asia Pacific region, and what this means for investors in 2012.**

This year's AIC comes at a time when the impact of global issues – including European sovereign indebtedness, the US slowdown, and the pressure for regime change in the Middle East - have never been felt more acutely by Asia Pacific investors.

The conference will feature discussions from three former Heads of State, four senior Central Bank governors, as well as cabinet ministers, government officials and industry experts from throughout the Asia Pacific region. Joining them will be more than 2,000 institutional and high net worth investors from over 35 countries and senior executives from over 260 corporates, including a number of blue chips from Japan.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Credit Suisse AIC, which will run from March 19-23 in Hong Kong. More than 5,500 private meetings are expected to take place during the five-day program, offering unrivalled corporate access to complement the AIC's thematic keynote addresses and panels, as well as Credit Suisse's highly-ranked economic, sector and market strategy research.

Most Asian markets have started the year strongly, with MSCI Asia ex Japan (MXASJ) rising 15.6% so far this year. Year-to-date, net foreign buying in Emerging Asia (ex China) has reached US\$20.9 billion. This exceeds net foreign selling of US\$16 billion in all of 2011.

Credit Suisse Asia Pacific CEO Osama Abbasi said: "Interest from global investors is stronger than ever this year and the conference has become more global than before, reflecting Asia Pacific's increasing influence and relevance in world economics, markets and politics. For investors, making sense of our increasingly interconnected world and the international issues affecting Asia, are as important as hearing first hand from government and business leaders in the region. At Credit Suisse, we are committed to delivering the most compelling and relevant investment conference to our clients, with the best of our thought leadership from the entire Bank."

The 15<sup>th</sup> Credit Suisse AIC presents a strong line-up of keynote speakers, whose opinion and expertise influence industry, markets, government and society. **Zhu Min**, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, will open the conference on March 19, setting the agenda on key challenges that governments and the world economy face in 2012. The luncheon keynote address features **Glenn**

**Stevens**, Governor, The Reserve Bank of Australia, on the prospects for the Australian economy. This will be followed by a speech in the afternoon by **Idris Jala**, Minister in charge of Malaysia's Economic Transformation Program and CEO, Pemandu, who will talk about the progress of this ambitious program announced two years ago that has helped drive the country's growth rates higher than those of most regional peers.

Day Two, March 20, will begin with the AIC's traditional economics keynote session, featuring **Professor Xia Bin**, Member of the People's Bank of China's Monetary Committee and Director of the Finance Institute of the State Council Development Research Center, Counselor of the State Council of China, and **Austan Goolsbee**, former Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers for the Obama Administration. They will share their views on the global economic outlook for 2012, drawing on their respective experience as policy-makers in the governments of the world's two largest economies. Over lunch, former Japanese Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** will provide his perspectives on the road ahead for Japan, particularly following the setbacks of 2011.

On Day Three, March 21, investor attention will turn to major global themes including the European sovereign debt crisis, the impending US elections, the continued political, economic and social turmoil in the Middle East, and the prospects for regional energy security, all of which are likely to be critical influences on the interconnected world economy this year. **Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei**, former Head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Egyptian opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner, **Luay Jawad Al Khatteeb**, Founder and Executive Director, Iraq Energy Institute, **José María Aznar**, former President of Spain, **Wolfgang Münchau**, Associate Editor and European Economic Columnist of the Financial Times, **Sir John Major**, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, **Evan Bayh**, former Democratic Senator for Indiana and **Grant Aldonas**, the US Commerce Department's former Undersecretary for International Trade in the Bush Administration, **Robert Kaplan**, senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security in Washington will debate these pressing issues and their relevance for investors in Asia.

On Day Four, March 22, **Paul Conway**, Vice Chairman of Cargill - one of the largest food producers and traders in the world - will provide his views on the prospects for food security and prices and, later in the day, the AIC will hear from the head of one of India's most successful companies, **Deepak Parekh**, Chairman of Housing Development Finance Corporation. He will address the AIC on the challenges and opportunities of investing in and building a business in the sub-continent. Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister **Kittiratt Na-Ranong** will also discuss the priorities for the newly elected government.

Day Five, March 23, features **Dr. James Bullard**, Member of the US Federal Open Market Committee and President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, **Dr. Subir Gokarn**, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India and **Norman TL Chan**, Chief Executive, Hong Kong Monetary Authority. At a time when Central Bank policy is being scrutinized more than ever before, they will shed light on the much debated topic of how central banks can provide enough stimuli to allow for sustainable economic growth, without creating an inflationary environment.

As usual, the 15<sup>th</sup> Credit Suisse AIC will also feature a range of popular panel sessions, focusing on a wide array of topics including: the challenges facing China's financial system; political succession in China and the US; economic reforms in Indonesia and Malaysia; the rising phenomenon of Asian consumers; the

outlook for China's property sector; opportunities in Asia Pacific for private equity; the gaming industry in the region; European banks deleveraging in Asia Pacific and the growing power of sovereign wealth funds.

Credit Suisse's leading economists and strategists will provide their insight into global, regional and sectoral investment themes and trends throughout the course of the conference.

For the first time, Credit Suisse is also tweeting links to the best of the Bank's Asian equity and economic research as well as media coverage of the key speakers and themes that the AIC will cover. During the conference, Credit Suisse will tweet links to coverage from its online conference news service – AIC Reporter – as well as video replays of conference sessions. Please follow the AIC's dedicated Twitter feed: @csaic.

For more information, please see our conference website at: [www.credit-suisse.com/aic/2012](http://www.credit-suisse.com/aic/2012). Keynote speeches will be open to the media and for details, please refer to the separately distributed media program. A media invitation to register for these sessions will be issued separately. Kindly note that company presentations and panels (unless otherwise specified) are not open to the press.

### Information

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