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HSBC LAUNCHES GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY FUND

HSBC Global Investments has launched the HSBC Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund in Australia, giving local investors exposure to some of the world's fastest growing economies in Asia, Russia, Eastern Europe, South Africa and Latin America.

Managed by HSBC Global Asset Management's active management specialist, Halbis Capital Management, the Fund provides exposure to a diversified portfolio of equity and equity-equivalent securities issued by companies listed or located in an emerging market.

The HSBC Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund has been rated by Standard & Poor's Fund Services and will be available to institutional investors, as well as retail investors through platforms.

Charles Genocchio, Head of Global Investments for HSBC in Australia, said: "Over the past 15 years, emerging markets have grown significantly faster than developed markets and this is a trend that we expect to continue.

"More recently, emerging markets have become key drivers of global growth, acting as stabilisers for the global economy. Over the next ten years, we expect to continue to see a fundamental rebalancing of the world economy towards these markets, especially Asia.

"The HSBC Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund allows investors to gain exposure to these fast-growing economies with the support of HSBC's global reach and local knowledge advantage.

HSBC is one of the world's largest emerging market asset managers with US\$69 billion in assets under management and a global team of over 180 investment professionals covering 16 emerging markets. Globally, the HSBC Group holds over US\$390 billion in assets under management (at 30 June 2009).

The minimum initial investment for investors is \$500,000, in increments of \$50,000 thereafter.

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Notes to editors

HSBC Bank Australia

In Australia, the HSBC Group offers an extensive range of financial services through a network of 35 branches and offices. These services include personal and commercial financial services, financial planning, trade finance, treasury and financial markets, payments and cash management and securities custody. Principal HSBC Group members operating in Australia include HSBC Bank Australia Limited (ABN 48 006 434 162) and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (ABN 65 117 925 970). HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

HSBC Global Investments

HSBC Global Investments is the institutional wealth management arm of HSBC Bank Australia. HSBC Global Investments distributes the international asset management capabilities of the HSBC Group to institutional clients and wholesale platforms in Australia. HSBC Global Investments offers products from HSBC Global Asset Management, including Halbis (active management specialist) and Sinopia (quantitative specialist), as well as HSBC Alternative Investments Limited (HSBC's hedge fund specialist), HSBC Principal Investments Limited (infrastructure, private equity and unlisted real estate specialist) and HSBC Special Investments Limited.

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