

## PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 27 May 2014

### **SOCIETE GENERALE CORPORATE & INVESTMENT BANKING APPOINTS HEAD OF SHIPPING & ASSET BASED FINANCE, ASIA PACIFIC**

Societe Generale Corporate & Investment Banking (SG CIB) is pleased to announce the appointment of Gareth Williams as Head of Shipping & Asset Based Finance for Asia Pacific, effective 19 May 2014.

Based in Hong Kong, Gareth will leverage the Bank's global expertise on shipping financing, advisory and capital markets to grow its core strengths of project and structured finance in Asia. He reports to Ashley Wilkins, Deputy CEO & Head of Global Finance, Asia Pacific.

Before relocating to Hong Kong in May 2014, Gareth was Head of LNG Shipping & Offshore in London since the beginning of 2009. Gareth was instrumental in growing the LNG Shipping and Offshore business out of London including many high profile limited recourse project financings, advisory mandates and capital markets initiatives. As several of the team's core successes have been with Asian clients, Gareth's expertise in structured shipping finance and presence in Hong Kong will be valuable to further developing business with SG CIB's core clients.

#### **Biography:**

After working at Societe Generale's Global LNG Shipping & Offshore team for three years, Gareth Williams has headed up this specialist team since the beginning of 2009, where he was instrumental in growing the LNG Shipping and Offshore business out of London.

Gareth had previously work in the Bank's Asset Based Finance team from 2000 where he implemented a number of structured finance transactions on a range of assets, focusing on maritime assets, aircraft and rolling stock.

Prior to joining Societe Generale, Gareth qualified as a chartered accountant with KPMG where he worked in the audit, management consultancy and project finance functions.

**SOCIETE GENERALE**  
PRESS OFFICE :

**PARIS**  
LAETITIA MAUREL  
+33(0)1 42 13 88 68  
[Laetitia.a.maurel@socgen.com](mailto:Laetitia.a.maurel@socgen.com)

**SOCIETE GENERALE CORPORATE & INVESTMENT BANKING :**

**PARIS**  
FLORENCE SCHWOB  
+33 (0)1 42 13 97 85  
[Florence.schwob@sgcib.com](mailto:Florence.schwob@sgcib.com)

**LONDON**  
ILA KOTECHA  
+4420 7676 6804  
[ila.kotecha@sgcib.com](mailto:ila.kotecha@sgcib.com)

**SOCIETE GENERALE**  
SGCIB  
75886 PARIS CEDEX 18  
[www.sgcib.com](http://www.sgcib.com)

A FRENCH CORPORATION WITH SHARE  
EUR 1 000 024 292,50  
552 120 222 RCS PARIS



### **Societe Generale**

Societe Generale is one of the largest European financial services groups. Based on a diversified universal banking model, the Group combines financial solidity with a strategy of sustainable growth, and aims to be the reference for relationship banking, recognised on its markets, close to clients, chosen for the quality and commitment of its teams.

Societe Generale has been playing a vital role in the economy for 150 years. With more than 148,000 employees, based in 76 countries, we accompany 32 million clients throughout the world on a daily basis. Societe Generale's teams offer advice and services to individual, corporate and institutional customers in three core businesses:

- **Retail banking in France** with the Societe Generale branch network, Credit du Nord and Boursorama, offering a comprehensive range of multichannel financial services on the leading edge of digital innovation;
- **International retail banking, financial services and insurance** with a presence in emerging economies and leading specialised businesses;
- **Corporate and investment banking, private banking, asset management and securities services**, with recognised expertise, top international rankings and integrated solutions.

Societe Generale is included in the main socially responsible investment indices: Dow Jones Sustainability Index (Europe), FSTE4Good (Global and Europe), Euronext Vigeo (Global, Europe, Eurozone and France), ESI Excellence (Europe) from Ethibel and 5 of the STOXX ESG Leaders indices.

For more information, you can follow us on twitter @societegenerale or visit our website [www.societegenerale.com](http://www.societegenerale.com).

### **Societe Generale: 150 years**

In 2014, Societe Generale Group celebrates its 150th anniversary with a focus on entrepreneurial spirit, innovation and team spirit. Founded by a group of industrialists and financiers, the bank's very name illustrated their ambition: "Société Générale pour favoriser le développement du commerce et de l'industrie en France" ("**Societe Generale to support the development of trade and industry in France**"), as written into the Imperial decree signed by Napoléon III on 4 May 1864.

Societe Generale has always served economic development, contributing to the financing of infrastructures that symbolised the modern world and of leading French groups. Societe Generale was among the first French banks to open branches in London and in Russia in the 1870s, before expanding into the Maghreb, New York and Africa and to set up operations in Central European countries.

Societe Generale has always been at the cutting edge of financial innovation, and takes strength from its origins to assert its banking vision for the future, reinvent its businesses to serve its clients and become the reference bank of the 21st century.

### **Societe Generale Corporate & Investment Banking**

At the core of Societe Generale's universal banking business model, the Corporate & Investment Bank is a well-diversified and leading player with nearly 12,000 professionals present in 31 countries across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific.

Standing by its clients across sectors, the Corporate & Investment Bank tailors solutions for them by capitalising on its worldwide expertise in **investment banking, global finance, and global markets**.

- For **Corporates, Financial Institutions and public sector**: providing a global advisory approach (M&A, debt, equity transaction, capital structure, and asset & liability management), as well as quality capital raising solutions across the debt and equity spectrum, optimised financing and expert risk management responses notably in the realm of foreign exchange and rates derivatives.
- For **investors**: offering reliable and sound investment opportunities and risk management solutions through its integrated global markets platform delivering seamless access to markets (equity, rates, credit, currencies, commodities and derivatives), as well as advice and solid financial engineering, quality of execution and forward-looking research across asset classes.

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