

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Inaugural Meeting of OMFIF in Asia**

*London, 13 May 2010*

Central bankers and sovereign wealth funds from more than 20 countries will attend the Inaugural Meeting in Asia of the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF) to be held at the Bank Negara Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur on 15 - 17 May. Other delegates will include representatives of the private sector and governmental bodies. The meeting will be attended by Mary Miller, Assistant Secretary for financial markets at the US Treasury.

The Malaysian prime minister and finance minister, Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, will address a lunch at the close of the meeting on 17 May. Bank Negara Malaysia Governor, Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, who is kindly making the Bank's facilities available for the meeting, will open the proceedings.

The theme of the Inaugural Meeting will be *Asia's Role in the World Economy: Finding the right East-West balance for a new global financial and economic order.*

"OMFIF has already established itself as an important channel for the discussion of global financial issues by key players on the world stage" said Michael Lafferty, co-chairman of OMFIF, "and Kuala Lumpur provides the ideal backdrop from which to review Asia's role in the global economy."

OMFIF is a global body for high level confidential dialogue between central banks, sovereign wealth funds and private financial institutions.

#### **Notes for Editors**

The forum is a joint venture by Michael Lafferty, chairman of Lafferty Group, a research and publishing house specialising in financial services, and David Marsh, the international economic expert and writer. The

Advisory Board is headed by Lord Meghnad Desai, Emeritus Professor at the London School of Economics.

*OMFIs* are responsible for around \$10 trillion worth of monetary and financial assets (including gold), representing a potent force on world capital markets.

*David Marsh* is chairman of the management consultancy group SCCO International, chairman of the advisory board of independent investment bank London & Oxford Capital Markets plc and senior advisor to asset management firm Soditic CBIP LLP. Previously Mr Marsh worked for City merchant bank Robert Fleming, corporate finance boutique Hawkpoint and German management consultancy Droege. He worked for the Financial Times between 1978 and 1995, becoming European editor.

*Michael Lafferty* is chairman of Lafferty Group, an international research and publishing house which he founded in 1981. Lafferty Group provides international financial services groups with research, intelligence, conferences and councils. Mr Lafferty had previously been responsible for banking coverage at the Financial Times. He worked on the Lex team and the City Desk and was accountancy correspondent. He is a fellow of the institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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