

## PRESS RELEASE

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### APAFS continues to raise investment standards in Asia Pacific

The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies (APAFS) faces the New Year with optimism as it continues its efforts in elevating fiduciary standards through various country conferences set in the Asia Pacific region. Followed by the success of last year's Pacific Region Investment Conference (PRIC) attended by over 300 participants from 33 countries, the 10<sup>th</sup> Pacific Region Investment Conference (PRIC) is set on October 14 and 15 in Manila, once again.

"We see that Asian countries like Japan, China and Korea are showing clear signs of recovery from the recession. We are confident that the rest of the region is also on its way to bouncing back and achieving positive growth. The predicted strength of the economy in 2010 is a wave that we want Asia Pacific investors to discern and leverage on for a strong start this year, hand in hand with our continued programs to stimulate best practices in fiduciary funds management," announces Daniel A. Roland, Executive Director of APAFS.

"APAFS members are mainly institutional investors with significant political connections as well as considerable financial sway. Having investors and educators together at an annual conference is an opportunity to underline the best practices of fiduciaries," says Roland.

More institutional investors, financial regulators and public officials are anticipated to take part in discussing current issues relating to the 2010 edition of the Global Investment Policy Standards (GIPS) in this year's lineup of conferences. GIPS provides improved consistency in the calculation and presentation of investment performances and is expected to yield more uniformity and transparency from investment management firms. The revised GIPS also represents united efforts from 32 country sponsors of GIPS across Europe, the Middle East, North America, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region.

"Most recently members agreed to incorporate GIPS into such important documents as Investment Policy Statements and Requests for Proposals, keeping our membership on the leading edge of GIPS adoption and implementation globally," adds Roland.



In March, the Asia Pacific Regional Investment Performance (RIPS) Subcommittee will be meeting in Lisbon, Portugal to review reports on progress from each of the regional Country Sponsors, to include APAFS. APAFS Executive Director, Daniel Roland, will represent APAFS at that meeting, as well as at the GPS Executive Committee meeting to be held in Lisbon thereafter.

Investors and educators can take advantage of the 2010 Country Conferences around the region already set by APAFS. The dates and locations are:

- April 27 - Republic of Palau
- April 29 - State of Yap, FSM
- April 30 - Northern Mariana Islands
- May 4 - State of Pohnpei, FSM
- May 6 - Republic of the Marshall

To learn more about APAFS and its events and conferences, log on to [www.apafs.org](http://www.apafs.org)

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**About APAFS:** The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies (APAFS) a non-profit educational association with the aim of providing educational forums for fiduciaries in the region. It was formed by a forward thinking group of fiduciaries throughout Asia in 2000.