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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Issues Sustainability Report 2020; Highlights the Value of Doing Right

On 23 March, Nikko Asset Management (Nikko AM) announces the next step forward in its commitment to sustainability with the release of its 2020 Sustainability Report and renewal of its sustainability website. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic drastically changed peoples' lives, economies and the finance industry. For Nikko AM, this served as impetus to re-examine how to invest in a way that generated returns while contributing to society in a sustainable way, and to come up with more ways to act in clients' best interests as a fiduciary.

The 2020 Sustainability Report highlights how investment teams in charge of each asset class engage companies to advance sustainability. It also provides updates on how the teams incorporate Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) into their investment philosophies, along with various collaborations with industry bodies and other stakeholders.

In the area of corporate sustainability, the report outlines the company's new goals and initiatives, such as incorporating sustainability goals in personnel evaluations, setting a target to have 30% of managerial roles held by women by 2030, and forming a new working group to promote deeper understanding of racial issues and ending discrimination. It also presents numerous examples of how various working groups reinvented their activities to contribute to society as the pandemic created new, different needs and restricted gatherings.

Stefanie Drews, Senior Corporate Managing Director and Global Executive Committee member overseeing corporate sustainability explained. "In the face of a global pandemic, we have stepped up our efforts to keep sustainability a central part of what we do. With a continued focus on three main pillars of sustainability: diversity & inclusion, reducing inequalities and environment & climate, we are proud to present how we evolved our philosophy as a corporate citizen and as an investor, setting higher goals for ourselves and keeping ourselves accountable."

Sustainability website links:

Japan (English)	https://en.nikkoam.com/sustainability
Singapore	https://www.nikkoam.com.sg/sustainability
EMEA	https://emea.nikkoam.com/sustainability
US	https://americas.nikkoam.com/sustainability
New Zealand	https://www.nikkoam.co.nz/sustainability



About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$284.4 billion* under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of equity, fixed income, multi-asset and alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's largest exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, the firm employs approximately 200** investment professionals, representing approximately 30 nationalities across 11 countries. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the company's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive, solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched for its clients.

For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's <u>homepage</u>.

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 December 2020.

** As of 31 December 2020, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

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