

**UKSIF heralds 10 years of pension regulation disclosure
“Responsible investment will be norm by 2020”**

London, 28 June 2010 – UKSIF, the sustainable investment and finance association, will this evening celebrate 10 years of responsible investment disclosure by UK occupational pension funds at an event held at the House of Commons. Speakers include the Rt. Hon. Stephen Timms MP and Michael Deakin, Chair of UKSIF’s Sustainable Pensions Advisory Board. UKSIF will also launch a report that reflects upon the effects of the regulation and addresses important next steps for environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues over the next 10 years.

Penny Shepherd MBE, Chief Executive of UKSIF, said:

“This is a momentous occasion. The changes that have taken place in the last decade have seen the issue of responsible investment migrate from the margins to the mainstream. The requirement to disclose occupational pension funds’ policies on responsible investment typifies the UK’s leadership in this area and has been followed by many other countries around the world.

“We are fast approaching a tipping point when responsible investment will become the norm for major investors worldwide. However, this will require commitment from Governments, asset owners and civil society. It is clear that there is growing awareness and concern about where investment is made and its consequences. You only have to look at the current situation in the Mexican Gulf to see the potential environmental risks and the pressure for change.”

In the report UKSIF calls for a number of commitments, including:

- Major occupational pension funds to increase their skills in sustainability governance and publicly disclose how their responsible investment strategies are implemented.
- UK Local Government Pension Scheme to require its investment managers to sign the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).
- Greater support and scrutiny from civil society. This should include NGOs helping consumers to challenge the investment decisions of pension funds and insurers.

The introduction of pensions disclosure regulation a decade ago sparked a rapid growth in responsible investment activity. Over 400 asset managers and nearly 150 professional service providers have now signed the PRI. In addition, major investment banks have invested heavily in their responsible investment research teams and ESG research providers have transformed

from national to global operators. Today, Stewardship Codes are being adopted internationally with the UK setting the lead once again.

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Notes to Editors

About UKSIF

UKSIF, the sustainable investment and finance association, promotes responsible investment and other forms of finance that support sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment. Founded in 1991, it has over 200 members including pension funds, banks, asset managers, investment consultants, research providers, financial advisers and non-governmental organisations. For more info, visit www.uksif.org

UKSIF is grateful to Aviva Investors, Baillie Gifford & Co, F&C Asset Management, Henderson Global Investors, Hermes Equity Ownership Services, Hewitt Associates, Jupiter Asset Management, KBC Asset Management, Newton Investment Management, RCM (UK), Sarasin & Partners LLP and Standard Life Investments for their support for the 10th anniversary celebration.

For a full copy of the report, please visit: www.uksif.org/publications or contact Adam Ognall at UKSIF on 020 7749 9950.