Manama, BAHRAIN, 25 January 2010 – CFA Bahrain, the Kingdom’s pre-eminent association for financial and investment professionals, is to host its 2010 Annual Forecast Dinner and CFA Charterholder Award Ceremony on Saturday 30th January 2010. Around 200 of the country’s leading investment industry professionals are expected to attend.

Standard Chartered Bank is the Platinum Sponsor and SICO Investment Bank is the Gold Sponsor for the event with forecast prizes being sponsored by Lost Paradise of Dilmun. The ceremony is one of the main annual events in this year’s investment and business calendar. Guests will be welcomed on behalf of the Board and the society by Mr. Khalil Nooruddin, President CFA Bahrain.

The CFA Charter Award Ceremony is the culmination of a rigorous and intensive three year study program that candidates from all over the world strive to complete. The CFA Charter is a prestigious global gold standard that demonstrates an investment professional’s expertise, skill and ethical focus. The event recognizes the extraordinary efforts, discipline and focus that many candidates put into the CFA program while balancing their professional and personal lives.

In addition to awarding the latest recipients their CFA charter, two prominent guest speakers will discuss the outlook for GCC markets, as well as fixed income and credit markets. This includes:

- Mr. Anthony Mallis, Chief Executive, SICO Investment Bank
- Mr. Philip Barleggs, Vice President, State Street Global Advisors

Speaking ahead of the event Mr. Khalil Nooruddin, President CFA Bahrain, said: “This is an annual event which brings some of the finest minds together as part of our ongoing commitment to develop thought leadership in the region. Being a CFA charterholder means attaining the ultimate investment professional qualification in the investment industry. In hosting events like this, CFA Bahrain is continually networking with its members and candidates, contributing to the development of the investment sector in the Kingdom.”

CFA Bahrain represents the country’s finance and investment community and is part of CFA Institute’s international network of nearly 100,000 members. Consisting of portfolio managers, investment advisors, educators and other financial professionals, CFA Institute comprises 136 affiliated professional societies in 57 countries and territories.

Any members of the media who would like to attend the Annual Forecast Dinner, as guests of CFA Bahrain, please contact a representative of the corporate communications team below.

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Notes to Editors

About CFA Bahrain
The CFA Bahrain Society is an association of local investment professionals consisting of portfolio managers, investment advisors, educators and other financial professionals. It is one of the largest member societies in the GCC region and with CFA membership in the GCC anticipated to double over the next decade; a significant share of this growth is expected to be in Bahrain as the Kingdom continues to grow as an international business and investment centre.

About CFA Institute
CFA Institute is the global association for investment professionals. It administers the CFA and CIPM curriculum and exam programs worldwide; publishes research; conducts professional development programs; and sets voluntary, ethics-based professional and performance-reporting standards for the investment industry. CFA Institute has nearly 100,000 members, who include the world’s 89,220 CFA charter holders, as well as 136 affiliated professional societies in 57 countries and territories. More information may be found at www.cfainstitute.org