VBA beleggingsprofessionals and CFA Society Netherlands formalise merger to become CFA Society VBA Netherlands

Amsterdam, 18 January 2018: On 7 December 2017, the members of CFA Society Netherlands and VBA beleggingsprofessionals ratified the proposed merger between the two organisations. Following on from this, the merger has been formalised, effective 1 January 2018. From now on, the two professional organizations will begin their integration and operate as CFA Society VBA Netherlands.

The new entity merges two associations which have, for decades, held a leading role in emphasising the tenets of professionalism through education - namely ethical codes and professional conduct in the investment management industry. Increasingly, daily practice requires investment professionals to possess technical knowledge and skills, but also comply with the highest standards of ethical behaviour. The merged association wants to play a greater role in discussions about the future of the asset management industry.

Jacco Heemskerk, CFA, President of CFA Society VBA Netherlands, commented: "We have created an association which can support developments in the investment management profession in the Netherlands. Members will be able to increase their professional skills and feel part of a thriving community locally. In addition, they will be strongly embedded within the global association of the CFA Institute, the professional organization which represents its members and the industry at large."

Alfred Slager, Vice-President of CFA Society VBA Netherlands: "Members of both associations have a direct advantage when it comes to training, networking- and career opportunities, and access to publications and research. Combining the two organisations also means that we have more time and financial resources to improve the quality of our activities for members, and to develop new services."

As a result of the merger, CFA Society VBA Netherlands now has more than 2,200 members and a board comprised of eight members who were elected by the members of the two previous organisations on 7 December 2017. Much of the work in early 2018 will prioritise the integration of the existing committee structures, developing an effective organisational strategy, and event planning. The merged association intends to offer a permanent education programme which complies with the new ESMA guidelines on the requirements of knowledge and skills in the distribution of financial products, thereby offering employers with an integral solution which meets the continuing professional development requirements for institutional investment advisers.
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CFA Society VBA Netherlands
CFA Society VBA Netherlands arose from the merger between CFA Society Netherlands and VBA investment professionals on 1 January 2018. The association has more than 2,200 members in the Netherlands and shows strong growth. The association has a wide range of professional training, including the internationally recognized vocational training for Chartered Financial Analyst, the postgraduate VU-VBA course 'Investment Management', the postgraduate course 'Risk Management for Financial Institutions', the CIPM training focused on performance measurement and general CFA Foundations training.

CFA Society VBA Netherlands has a wide range of possibilities for maintaining knowledge and skills and keeps a register of the permanent education of its members. With members working in virtually all disciplines within the financial sector, the association is deeply embedded in the Dutch industry. The association is affiliated to the international network of CFA Institute.

For more information, see www.cfasociety.org/netherlands and www.vbabeleggingsprofessionals.nl

CFA Institute
CFA Institute is the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence and credentials. The organisation is a champion for ethical behaviour in investment markets and a respected source of knowledge in the global financial community. The end goal: to create an environment where investors’ interests come first, markets function at their best, and economies grow. CFA Institute has over 148,000 members in 167 countries and territories, including 142,000 CFA charterholders, and 148 member societies. For more information, visit www.cfainstitute.org.