

## LOOMIS SAYLES STRENGTHENS ASIA CREDIT OFFERING WITH ASIA BOND PLUS STRATEGY

**BOSTON AND SINGAPORE (June 10, 2019)** – Loomis, Sayles & Company, an affiliate of Natixis Investment Managers, is pleased to announce the launch of its Asia Bond Plus strategy.

Asia Bond Plus is Loomis Sayles' first multinational co-managed strategy. The strategy expands Loomis Sayles' emerging markets capabilities line-up and extends the firm's reach in Asian markets. The strategy is co-managed by [Elisabeth Colleran](#) in Boston and [Thu Ha Chow](#) in Singapore, who each have more than 20 years of credit research and investment experience.

Loomis Sayles has a long and distinguished track record of investing in Asia credit and emerging markets debt. The firm manages approximately \$17.0 billion<sup>1</sup> in emerging markets debt assets, and its institutional Asia Credit and Emerging Markets Corporate Debt strategies each have a track record of over ten years, among the longest in the industry. The Loomis Sayles emerging markets debt team currently manages more than \$2.5 billion<sup>2</sup> in dedicated emerging markets debt portfolios across a range of strategies, including emerging markets corporate debt, local currency debt and short duration credit.

With its rich experience in Asia credit, Loomis Sayles believes there are three key reasons to invest in the region: strong macro fundamentals and growth, a growing issuer universe and regional market dynamics that offer lower correlation to global credit indices. Loomis Sayles seeks to enhance its investment proposition by assessing the global environment through a credit cycle lens and leveraging opportunities in security selection based on market inefficiency.

The Asia Bond Plus strategy invests in emerging markets corporate, quasi-sovereign and sovereign issues across the Asia bond universe. Outside of Asia, the strategy also includes countries in emerging Europe, the Middle East and Africa (the "Plus" regions), providing exposure to neighboring markets to reduce the vulnerabilities of a highly concentrated investment universe and increase diversification. Currently, the strategy's investment universe offers exposure to 50% of world GDP and captures 75% of the world's GDP growth that is underrepresented in major bond indices.

Jae Park, Chief Investment Officer commented, "Through the Asia Bond Plus strategy, we offer investors an opportunity to leverage long-term structural growth in Asia and beyond. The strategy combines the potential benefits of investing in Asia credit with the potential of exposure to parts of Africa, the Middle East and Europe, thus being able to leverage the traditional emerging markets story, infrastructure-supported growth and diversification benefits."

Loomis Sayles currently follows and rates over 60 emerging market countries and has been investing in frontier markets since 1994. The experienced investment team is supported by a sovereign and macro research team and emerging market credit analysts located in Boston, London and Singapore.

"Each Loomis Sayles investment strategy is characterized by a sound investment philosophy, strong fundamental research and high-conviction investments. The Asia Bond Plus strategy reflects these hallmarks," said Kevin Charleston, Chief Executive Officer. "Both Elisabeth and Thu Ha bring strong leadership skills and a diverse yet complementary investment experience that will help us to drive the firm's business in expanding its Asia credit offering."

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<sup>1 2</sup> As of March 31, 2019.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: ELISABETH COLLERAN, CFA**

Elisabeth Colleran is a vice president of Loomis, Sayles & Company and portfolio manager for emerging markets debt portfolios, focusing on investment strategy, portfolio construction and risk management. Since 2012, she has been a senior EM credit strategist, identifying and implementing themes in the EMD product suite. Elisabeth joined Loomis Sayles in 2003 as a senior credit analyst, following the telecom sector on a global basis, with a specialized focus on emerging market corporates in Asia. She started her career at DRI/McGraw Hill (now Global Insight), where she applied analytical tools to a wide set of customer issues including competitor analysis, demand forecasting, pricing strategy and asset valuation. Elisabeth has also served as an investment officer for Sun Capital and fixed income research analyst at Back Bay Advisors. She earned a BA in Economics from the University of Rochester and an MBA from the University of New Hampshire.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: THU HA CHOW**

Thu Ha Chow is a portfolio manager and senior credit strategist for the emerging markets debt team at Loomis Sayles Investments Asia Pte. Ltd. She joined Loomis Sayles in 2016 as a senior credit research analyst and has 21 years of investment industry experience. Previously, Thu Ha was the head of Asian credit at Aberdeen Asset Management in Singapore, responsible for research, portfolio and Asian credit trading. Prior to this, she was a director and portfolio manager at Deutsche Asset Management in London, where she managed European corporate portfolios. Thu Ha started her career in Corporate Finance at Credit Suisse First Boston. Thu Ha earned a BSc (Hon) Economics and an MSc Economics and Philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

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## **ABOUT LOOMIS SAYLES**

Since 1926, Loomis, Sayles & Company has helped fulfill the investment needs of institutional and mutual fund clients worldwide. The firm's performance-driven investors integrate deep proprietary research and integrated risk analysis to make informed, judicious decisions. Teams of portfolio managers, strategists, research analysts and traders collaborate to assess market sectors and identify investment opportunities wherever they may lie, within traditional asset classes or among a range of alternative investments. Loomis Sayles has the resources, foresight and the flexibility to look far and wide for value in broad and narrow markets in its commitment to deliver attractive sustainable returns for clients. This rich tradition has earned Loomis Sayles the trust and respect of clients worldwide, for whom it manages \$263.5 billion \*\* in assets (as of March 31, 2019).

*\*Total strategy assets include all assets managed by the respective team.*

*\*\*Includes the assets of Loomis, Sayles & Co., LP, and Loomis Sayles Trust Company, LLC. Loomis Sayles Trust Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Loomis, Sayles & Company, LP.*

## ABOUT NATIXIS INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Natixis Investment Managers serves financial professionals with more insightful ways to construct portfolios. Powered by the expertise of 24 specialized investment managers globally, we apply Active Thinking® to deliver proactive solutions that help clients pursue better outcomes in all markets. Natixis Investment Managers ranks among the world's largest asset management firms<sup>1</sup> with \$960.3 billion / €855.4 billion AUM.<sup>2</sup> Headquartered in Paris and Boston, Natixis Investment Managers is a subsidiary of Natixis. Listed on the Paris Stock Exchange, Natixis is a subsidiary of BPCE, the second-largest banking group in France. Investment solutions are also offered through Natixis Advisors and Dynamic Solutions. **Not all offerings available in all jurisdictions.** For additional information, please visit Natixis Investment Managers' website at [im.natixis.com](http://im.natixis.com) | LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/natixis-investment-managers](https://www.linkedin.com/company/natixis-investment-managers). Natixis Investment Managers' distribution and service groups include Natixis Distribution, L.P., a limited purpose broker-dealer and the distributor of various registered investment companies for which advisory services are provided by affiliated firms of Natixis Investment Managers, and Natixis Investment Managers S.A. (Luxembourg) and its affiliated distribution entities in Europe and Asia.

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<sup>1</sup> Cerulli Quantitative Update: Global Markets 2018 ranked Natixis Investment Managers as the 16th largest asset manager in the world based on assets under management as of December 31, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Net asset value as of March 31, 2019. Assets under management ("AUM"), as reported, may include notional assets, assets serviced, gross assets, assets of minority-owned affiliated entities and other types of non-regulatory AUM managed or serviced by firms affiliated with Natixis Investment Managers.

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