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Argo Group launches ‘best ideas’ multi-strategy fund

Argo Group Limited (“Argo”), the emerging markets investment management specialist, is pleased to announce the launch of the Argo Multi-Strategy Fund Limited (“Argo MSF”). The new fund is a diversified multi-asset class portfolio, which will enable investors to participate in all Argo’s award winning funds as well as capitalise on Argo’s best ideas through direct investments. Argo MSF will launch on 1 August 2008 and aims to offer investors reduced target volatility with above average returns.

Targeting risk adjusted returns in excess of 10% per annum with a volatility of less than 5%, the fund will invest the majority of its assets in Argo’s diversified portfolio of proprietary funds, including the award winning Argo Global Special Situations Fund and The Argo Fund Limited, both of which have annualised above average double digit returns on a risk adjusted basis since their inception. The fund will also be able to invest in the closed-end AIM listed Argo Real Estate Opportunities Fund Limited and Argo’s private equity funds.

To give investors further diversification and greater exposure to Argo’s best ideas and competencies, Argo MSF has the added flexibility to invest directly in specific trades sourced by the Argo investment team.

With the current market environment giving rise to new investment opportunities, Argo expects to launch a range of new funds in the near future focusing on sovereign and corporate debt, relative value, FX and rates, as well as in the stressed and distressed credit space. Argo MSF will have the ability to invest in all new fund launches.

Commenting on the launch of Argo MSF, Andreas Rialas, CIO of Argo Capital Management Limited said: “Given the heightened levels of volatility across asset classes and the dislocation created by the credit crunch, giving investors access to a flexible allocation strategy is extremely beneficial. Argo MSF will allow the investment team to swiftly allocate and re-allocate capital tactically and strategically, allowing the portfolio to capitalise on opportunities as they arise. The Argo MSF portfolio is a logical addition given Argo’s multi-strategy investment focus and provides the ideal platform to capture Argo’s best investment ideas. It also removes the allocation dilemma our investors sometimes face when selecting funds from the Argo stable.”

Fund Details

Argo MSF, which is structured as an “umbrella” fund domiciled in the Cayman Islands, will have multiple share classes [A shares and B shares] denominated in EUR and USD.

The minimum investment is USD100, 000 or EUR 100, 000 with quarterly redemptions subject to 120 days notice. Management fees are 2% of NAV per annum and the performance fee is 20% of net realised gains subject to meeting its hurdle rate. Fees will be waived by the Investment Manager to the extent that assets are invested in the underlying Argo funds (so as to avoid duplication of fees).

-Ends-

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Notes to Editor:

About Argo

Formed in 2000, Argo is an independent alternative investment management company offering a multi-strategy investment platform in global emerging markets.

It is a fundamental value investor that aims to deliver low volatility, double-digit absolute returns by utilising an array of different strategies including fixed income relative value, special situations, local currencies and rates, private equity, real estate, high yield corporate credit and distressed debt.

Argo manages four funds with assets under management totalling in excess of \$1bn and has one of the best investment track records in its peer group.

The Argo Fund, launched in October 2000, is a long/short emerging market debt fund that principally invests in sovereign and corporate bonds in both hard and local currencies. It also makes opportunistic investments in special situations and distressed debt.

Argo Global Special Situations Fund (AGSSF) builds on the success of the Argo Fund but has greater flexibility in its use of instruments and products and participates in more illiquid situations. AGSSF invests across different types of financial instruments

including convertible debt, equity, senior and subordinated loans, bonds, guarantees, credit default swaps and options to extract absolute returns from stressed/distressed and deep value situations on a global basis. It was launched in August 2004.

The company also manages the Argo Capital Partners Fund, which is a private equity fund currently closed to new investment. The company is expected to grow the Argo private equity funds platform with the launch of new funds in the near future. Separately, Argo Capital Management Property Limited, an affiliate company, manages the closed-end AIM listed Argo Real Estate Opportunities Fund.

Argo's investment team is headed by Andreas Rialas. Investment oversight is exercised by a five-member Investment Committee comprising Andreas Rialas, Stephen Rothwell, Nathan Chua, Demetris Efstathiou and Kyriakos Rialas. They are supported by a global investment team operating out of the UK, Cyprus, Singapore, Brazil and Argentina.

Awards

EuroHedge, December 2007
Shortlisted Best High Yield, Emerging Market & Distressed Debt Fund 2007

HFMWeek European Awards, April 2008
Voted Best Single Manager in Emerging Markets

Hedge Funds Review European Awards, June 2008
Nominated Best Fixed Income Hedge Fund on a Risk Adjusted Basis and Best Event Driven Hedge Fund on a Risk Adjusted Basis

European Hedge Funds Awards 2004 - Hedge Funds Review
Best Performing Single Manager Fund on a Risk Adjusted Basis over 3 year period.

Eurekahedge, April 2004
Ranked 1st among all Emerging Markets funds with highest Sharpe Ratio (5.7)

Global Emerging Markets Funds Ranking
Ranked in the top 5 over a 3 year period

hedgefund.net
Ranked 3rd in Sharpe Ratio among all emerging markets funds

MarHedge Magazine, March 2006
Top 10 ranking for 5-year Sharpe ratio amongst 400 Hedge Funds

For more information on Argo please visit www.argocm.com