

## Press Release Brussels, Belgium – 24 February 2022

## EuropeanIssuers welcomes European Commission's initiative on an EU Listing Act

On 24 February 2022, EuropeanIssuers <u>responded</u> to the European Commission's <u>public</u> <u>consultation</u> on the Listing Act in order to make public capital markets more attractive for EU companies and facilitating access to capital for SMEs.

EuropeanIssuers welcomes the initiative of the European Commission to work on the regulatory framework for listed companies in order to have it rebalanced and better reflect the companies' needs, as the initiative has the potential to improve the financing and regulatory environment for European listed companies and thus offers the opportunity to deliver growth and jobs for European economies. Moreover, EuropeanIssuers applauds the approach of the European Commission to raise points specifically relevant for smaller companies.

European Secretary General Florence Bindelle stated: "The consultation from the European Commission on the Listing Act is an important step to achieve a coherent and appropriate framework for all listed companies. The overall level of intensity of regulation needs to be adapted to the needs and resources of companies. We see the European Commission rightly focusing on not only technical issues, but also fundamental elements from the Market Abuse Regulation, and on the Prospectus regime, which we believe should provide for a less burdensome process. Given the work of the Capital Markets Union High-Level Forum, and the Technical Expert Stakeholder Group on SMEs, as well as their various recommendations on how to address the concerns of the market, we encourage the Commission to proceed along the lines envisaged."

While the initiative of the European Commission can deliver a more coherent framework for strong capital markets that is fit for purpose in serving the objectives of investor protection, cost efficiency for issuers and investors, as well as attractiveness of capital market finance, EuropeanIssuers suggests that a holistic approach is adopted. Moreover, several points of interest in relation to small and medium sized companies should be better reflected upon and taken into account in the future legislative proposals, namely the threshold defining SMEs, the potential benefits of transition period after an IPO before the full set of regulation applies, and the negative impact of the extension of the scope of the Market Abuse Regulation to MFTs.

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- For EuropeanIssuers' response to the European Commission's public consultation on the Listing Act, please click <u>here.</u>
- For this press release, please click here.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

## **About EuropeanIssuers**

EuropeanIssuers is a pan-European organisation representing the interests of publicly quoted companies across Europe to the EU Institutions. Our members include both national associations and companies from all sectors in 15 European countries, covering markets worth € 7.6 trillion market capitalisation with approximately 8000 companies. We aim to ensure that EU policy creates an environment in which companies can raise capital through the public markets and can deliver growth over the longer-term. We seek capital markets that serve the interests of their end users, including issuers. EuropeanIssuers Vision 2019-2024 contains key priorities and policy recommendations in a number of areas to support the policymakers.

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