

26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **ASHMORE GROUP CORONAVIRUS PLANNING AND RESPONSE**

I would like to provide you with an update on Ashmore's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Ashmore's preparations as part of our well-established Business Continuity Plan (BCP).

Our thoughts are with all those affected by COVID-19 and our top priority across the firm continues to be the safety and health of Ashmore's employees, clients and stakeholders.

Ashmore has comprehensive plans in place to manage the business through this period of potentially extended uncertainty and is focused on ensuring business continuity and fulfilling obligations to clients, counterparties and stakeholders.

Ashmore's BCP has been in place for many years and has been tested on a regular basis. It is designed to ensure that staff across Ashmore's global office network are equipped with the tools, technology and support necessary to be effective. Ashmore's BCP team, which comprises a cross-section of senior management, is responsible for the coordination of all decisions and precautionary measures related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Consequently, despite the change in business environment, Ashmore is confident that it has the appropriate measures in place to manage the business effectively.

Ashmore will, of course, continue to monitor the situation closely and is following government advice in each of the countries in which Ashmore operates.

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## **Current BCP status**

Ashmore's single global operating platform allows all critical business functions to operate from various locations around the globe. At present, most staff members are currently working from home in response to local government advice including in London.

In addition, the following changes to usual business practice have been implemented until further notice:

- No international or domestic business air travel;
- All external face-to-face meetings moved to video conference or telephone;
- All conference / seminar attendance stopped; and
- Additional office cleaning resources have been commissioned.

Acknowledging these necessary steps, Ashmore continues to operate as close to normal as possible and all staff (whether working from home or in the office) are, as ever, contactable via their usual office telephone numbers, cell phones and email.

## **Business partners and vendors**

Ashmore is in contact and close cooperation with all critical business partners (in particular custodians, transfer agents and administrators of Ashmore's pooled funds and segregated accounts) to ensure uninterrupted provision of service.

Ashmore is committed to working closely with you throughout this uncertain period, please do get in touch if you have any further questions on any of the points raised above.

Thank you for your continuous support and partnership.

Yours faithfully,



**Mark Coombs**

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