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QIC SIGNS UN PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

QIC has joined some of the world's leading financial institutions in signing the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI).

This commitment will see QIC incorporate environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues in the development of investment strategies.

Launched by the United Nations in April 2006, the Principles provide a set of global best-practices for responsible investment.

QIC Chief Executive Dr Doug McTaggart said the commitment to responsible investing reinforced QIC's view that environmental, social and governance issues directly affect investment returns.

"We did not sign the Principles for Responsible Investing just to be 'green'. We believe that environmental, social and governance issues must be taken into consideration to continue to deliver superior risk-adjusted returns to our clients," Dr McTaggart said.

"QIC has always been strong in governance issues, and this reinforces our commitment to not just look at 'the numbers', but to further investigate the long-term sustainability of assets and companies from an environmental and social perspective.

"We believe the impacts of issues, such as climate change, will have significant influence on investment returns. While it will have a negative impact on some industries it will also create new investment opportunities.

"Part of our role as an investment manager will be to determine the best ways to influence the companies we invest in to improve their environmental, social and governance practices.

"This commitment to responsible investing will not only ensure our investment strategies align with the broader objectives of society, but will also assist in QIC continuing to deliver the best possible long-term investment returns for our clients," he said.

QIC will also encourage its external investment managers to follow the UN Principles for Responsible Investing.

QIC is one of Australia's largest institutional fund managers with more than \$70 billion currently under management for its Australian and overseas clients.

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