IR magazine think tank

Europe

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Bank of America offices, London

8.30 am **Welcome to the forum: Meet the attendees**

8.55 am **Opening remarks**

9.00 am **The role of public companies during times of geopolitical crisis**

With economies around the world recovering from the pandemic, we now seem to be entering a new period of uncertainty. In response to the crisis in Ukraine we are seeing governments imposing sanctions, companies exiting Russia at unprecedented speed and a recalibration of global supply chains. Combined with rising inflation and high interest rates, public companies across Europe are looking for guidance on how to navigate the current environment.

- Market outlook: assessing the impact of inflation, sanctions and the Ukraine crisis on Public companies across Europe
- How best to engage with shareholders during periods of inflation and supply chain disruption
- What lessons have been learned in terms of reputation management and global entity management?

9.30 am **Roundtables: Building resilience and communicating in a crisis**

10.00 am **Rethinking the 'S' in ESG: An in-depth look at the social aspect of sustainable investing**

In this session we'll be taking a closer look at the S of ESG and how public companies can improve their relationships with their workforce, political environments and the society in which they operate. In this session our speakers will discuss how the pandemic has changed the discussion around human capital management, diversity and equality, and share insight on communicating your social impact to shareholders.

- Assessing the impact of the pandemic on the social responsibility of public companies: what has changed?
- Monitoring your company's societal impact: what metrics and standards does the industry prefer?
- Acting on your company's social goals: turning targets into timelines and timelines into action

10.30 am **Networking break**

10:45 am **Preparing for new reporting requirements and standardizing your ESG disclosures**

For a while now there have been repeated calls from governments, consumers and investors to standardize ESG information in a similar way to financial information. Recently, the development of green taxonomies and the ISSB mark the most significant steps towards reaching this goal, promising to develop a globally recognised reporting standard and common language. Here we will discuss:

- The impact of the EU taxonomy on how ESG information is categorized and communicated across Europe

- How will the formation of the ISSB change existing ESG reporting processes?
- Further integrating financial and 'non-financial' information: what needs to happen next?

Confirmed representative, Ctrl Print

11:15 am **Roundtables: Collecting and reporting ESG information**

11.45 am **Aligning your ESG story with new global standards and evolving shareholder expectations**

Staying compliant with changing regulations is crucial, but it is just important to ensure your company's efforts are communicated with your stakeholders in a clear and succinct way. In this panel, building on the trends discussed in the earlier session, our speakers will share practical insights on ESG story-telling that meet and exceed growing investor expectations.

- Knowing what information to prioritize in your sustainability report
- Improving your ESG scores: how best to sell your ESG story to ratings agencies?
- ESG in the context of stakeholder capitalism: communicating your ESG story to a wider range of stakeholders

12:15 pm **Roundtables: Practical advice on communicating ESG with shareholders**

12.45 pm **Lunch**

1.45 pm **Capital raising in a hybrid world: trends in investor targeting**

The transition to online working had a huge effect on the way public companies and capital markets interact with one another. One of the positives to come of the shift to hybrid working was the ability to connect more easily and directly with a broader range of potential investors. In this panel we'll discuss how public companies are leveraging this benefit to grow internationally, and how it's changing the way the buy-side and sell-side operate.

- Growing your shareholder base in Europe: what do European investors want and how best to communicate with them?
- How has MiFID II impacted the role of the sell-side and their relationship with public companies?
- Directly targeting the buyside: recognising and avoiding common mistakes

2.15.pm **Roundtables: practical insights on investor outreach**

2.45 pm **Shareholder engagement in a hybrid world: combining the convenience of virtual with the value of in-person**

Whilst the benefits of going virtual are numerous, there is a growing demand for a return to in-person events. In this panel, we'll discuss how companies are managing the move back to face-to-face, to what extend virtual meetings will remain, and how to successfully run a hybrid event in a way that combines the best – rather than the worst – of both worlds.

- How are public companies managing the transition back to in-person events? Will multi-day conferences make a comeback?
- Running impactful hybrid roadshows: maximising engagement and shareholder participation
- What tools and technology do corporates and investors prefer?

3.15 pm **Roundtables: reaching the right people in a hybrid environment**

3.45 pm **Investor Q&A: Buy-side expectations from IR teams in the current market environment**

For our final session, our panel of investors will address any concerns and questions you may have about the coming months. This is an opportunity to engage with a broad range of investors in a frank and open environment.

- How has the situation in Ukraine impacted investor sentiment across Europe?
- How do different types of investors find and screen stocks?
- What information do investors want from IROs in 2022 and beyond?
- What is the investor perspective on the transition from shareholder primacy to stakeholder capitalism?

4.30 pm **End of conference and networking drinks**