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**FONDUL PROPRIETATEA CELEBRATES 13 YEARS SINCE  
ITS LISTING ON THE BUCHAREST STOCK EXCHANGE**

**Bucharest, 26 January 2024** – Franklin Templeton International Services S.À R.L., in its capacity as alternative investment Fund Manager and sole director (the “Fund Manager”) of Fondul Proprietatea S.A. (the “Fund”) celebrates 13 years since the listing of the Fund on the Bucharest Stock Exchange on January 25, 2011. The 13-year anniversary is testament to its success and resilience in the Romanian capital market.

On this occasion, **Johan Meyer, CEO of Franklin Templeton Bucharest Branch, and Portfolio Manager of Fondul Proprietatea said:** *“For the past 13 years, Franklin Templeton’s management of Fondul Proprietatea has been transformational for the Romanian equity markets, portfolio companies, and the Fund’s shareholders. Our strong commitment to promoting corporate governance and transparency among the Fund’s portfolio companies has resulted in improved financial performance and significant returns for our investors. Our sustained efforts have made an undeniable contribution to the development of the local capital market, and we look forward to achieving similar success in partnership with Fondul Proprietatea stakeholders in the future.”*

Franklin Templeton has built a solid reputation as a committed and transformational Fund Manager in Romania and for its investors. The Fund has drawn on decades of global experience to effect the reforms necessary with profound impact and to establish best international practices amongst the portfolio companies.

Key highlights of the Fund’s activity since Franklin Templeton took over the management of the Fund in 2010 include:

- it successfully listed the Fund’s stake in Hidroelectrica on the Bucharest Stock Exchange in 2023, the largest listing in Romania to date and one of the biggest listings in Eastern Europe, and then distributed the money received from this transaction to the Fund’s shareholders.
- it generated compounded annual returns of 20.29 % in RON terms and 16.90% in USD terms for the Fund, since its listing on the Bucharest Stock Exchange in 2011. This compares favourably to many stock market indices.
- it has distributed over US\$6.9 billion<sup>1</sup> to its shareholders through a combination of dividends, share buybacks, and tender offers, since the Fund’s establishment.
- it attracted over US\$1.5 billion of new foreign portfolio investments into Romania since 2011.
- it significantly increased the visibility of the Fund, Romania and the local market among global international investors, by organizing 6,200 meetings, 2200 conference calls and over 260 road-shows, investor days events, and conferences since 2011.

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<sup>1</sup> As at 31 December 2023

- it executed 35 private transactions and 14 full exits via the capital market (IPOs, SPOs, ABBs, market sales), all with a cumulated value exceeding RON 19.8 billion (USD 4.3 billion)<sup>2</sup>.
- it completed 14 buy-back programs of RON 10,319.5 million and proposed shareholders the commencement of the 15<sup>th</sup> buy-back programme<sup>3</sup>.

Looking forward, the Fund Manager remains committed to continuing its mission of creating value for the Fund's shareholders and contributing to the further development of the local capital market.

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## Notes to Editors:

### 1. About Fondul Proprietatea

Launched in December 2005, Fondul Proprietatea ("the Fund") was established to compensate Romanians whose properties were confiscated by the former communist government. Following an international tender announced in December 2008, Franklin Templeton Investments was officially appointed as investment manager and sole administrator of the Fund on 29 September 2010.

The Fund is an alternative investment fund and its investment objective is the maximization of returns to shareholders and the increase of the net asset value per share via investments mainly in Romanian equities and equity-linked securities. The Fund listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange on 25 January 2011 and on the Specialist Fund Market of the London Stock Exchange by means of global depositary receipts ("GDRs") on 29 April 2015.

The headquarters of Fondul Proprietatea SA are at 76-80 Buzesti Street, 7th Floor, Bucharest District 1, 011017, Romania. For more information on Fondul Proprietatea, please visit <http://www.fondulproprietatea.ro>.

### 2. About Franklin Templeton Investments

Franklin Resources, Inc. [NYSE:BEN] is a global investment management organization with subsidiaries operating as Franklin Templeton and serving clients in over 165 countries. Franklin Templeton's mission is to help clients achieve better outcomes through investment management expertise, wealth management and technology solutions. Through its specialist investment managers, the company brings extensive capabilities in equity, fixed income, multi-asset solutions and alternatives. With offices in more than 30 countries and approximately 1,300 investment professionals, the California-based company has over 75 years of investment experience and approximately \$1.42 trillion in assets under management as of 31 August 2023. For more information, please visit [www.franklintempleton.ro](http://www.franklintempleton.ro).

Franklin Templeton established an office in Bucharest in May 2010, with a team of 29 employees, including 6 locally based investment professionals, who are further supported by the wider Templeton Emerging Markets team.

Starting with 1 April 2016, in view of complying with the EU Directive 2011/61 on alternative investment fund managers, the Fund is managed by Franklin Templeton International Services S.À R.L. ("FTIS/ Fund Manager"), a société à responsabilité limitée qualifying as

<sup>2</sup> It includes the sale of the Fund's shareholding in the share capital of Engie, which is subject to shareholders' approval at the General Shareholders Meeting on 13 February 2024

<sup>3</sup> Subject to shareholders' approval at the General Shareholders Meeting on 13 February 2024.

an alternative investment fund manager under Article 5 of the Luxembourg Law of 12 July 2013 on alternative investment fund managers, authorized by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier under no. A00000154/21 November 2013, whose registered office is located at 8A rue Albert Borschette, L-1246 Luxembourg, registered with the Luxembourg Register of Commerce and Companies under number B 36.979.

This release herein is issued by FTIS Bucharest Branch, registered therein under the number 40198471.

The office of FTIS Bucharest Branch is located at Premium Point, 8th floor, 76-80 Buzesti St., District 1, Bucharest, 011017, Romania. Tel: +40.200.96.00, Fax: +40.200.96.31/32.

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