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FONDUL PROPRIETATEA PROMOTES ROMANIA ABROAD

Bucharest and London, 29 February 2016 – Fondul Proprietatea ("the Fund") in partnership with Wood & Company organized the third Romania Investor Days in London event on 29 February and 1 March 2016. The event aims to offer international investors dedicated to the CEE region an insight into the latest developments in Romania and the Romanian capital market and to facilitate meetings with senior management from major Romanian companies, both listed and unlisted. In terms of attendance, the event has attracted over 100 participants from 56 investment management firms collectively representing over USD 4,500 billion in assets under management.

The event features presentations and speeches from representatives of the Presidential Administration, the Government of Romania, the Ministry of Public Finance, the Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Relations with the Business Environment, the Ministry of Energy, the National Bank of Romania, the Financial Supervisory Authority, The International Monetary Fund, Franklin Templeton Investments and London Stock Exchange. During both days, over 160 meetings will held between the investors and the management teams of the participating companies, including: Alro, Banca Transilvania, BRD Groupe Societe Generale, Bucharest Airports, Bucharest Stock Exchange, CE Oltenia, Conpet, Electrica, Fondul Proprietatea, Hidroelectrica, NEPI, Nuclearelectrica, OMV Petrom, Posta Romana, RCS&RDS, Salrom, SIF 1 Banat Crisana, SIF 2 Moldova, SIF 3 Transilvania, Romgaz, Teraplast, Transelectrica and Transgaz.

Greg Konieczny, Fund Manager of Fondul Proprietatea, commented: "Since 2010 Fondul Proprietatea has been working endlessly to increase the visibility and profile of the Fund, the local capital market, and Romania as an investment destination to a broader base of international institutional investors. The Fund, with its diverse portfolio, enabled foreign investors to get a clear snapshot of Romania's investment opportunities, which in turn determined them to become active players on the Romanian capital market, by looking beyond the Fund's shares and investing in other listed and unlisted companies in Romania. The record high participation at this year's event is further proof that Romania is very attractive given the country's strong fundamentals, but new IPOs are needed in order to maintain interest from foreign institutional investors".

Kristen Andrasko, Co-Head of equities, Wood & Company added: "This is the third edition of the Romania Investors Day and we are thrilled to see a record number of international investors meeting with Romanian companies, Government representatives and market authorities: a reflection of the growing importance of this market. At Wood & Company we continue our strong commitment to the Romanian capital market, one of the focal points of our business. We aim to maintain and consolidate our market position as a leader and remain firmly dedicated to increasing Romania's visibility among emerging and frontier market investors globally."

During 2015, Fondul Proprietatea undertook frequent investor relations activities designed to increase Romania's visibility abroad and raise awareness among international investors. This included:

- participating in 24 global and regional emerging and frontier market conferences in New York, London, Dubai, Zurs, Zagreb, Vienna, Warsaw, Prague, Stegersbach and Bucharest, involving meetings with over 220 international and local institutional investors and analysts interested in finding out more details about the Fund and Romania's economy;
- organising 15 road-shows in the most important financial centres in Europe (London), the United States (New York, Dallas, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco), Canada (Toronto and Montreal) and the Middle-East (Dubai) and meeting over 220 international institutional investment firms.

Fondul Proprietatea remains highly committed to the development of the Romanian capital market, but the market can only grow further if new issuers are listed on the stock exchange; the Romanian Government has a significant role to play in this direction by listing state-owned enterprises.

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Launched in December 2005, Fondul Proprietatea ("the Fund") was established to compensate Romanians whose properties were confiscated by the former communist government. An international tender was announced in December 2008, and Franklin Templeton Investments officially took over as investment manager and sole administrator of the Fund on 29 September 2010. The Fund is a closed-end investment company and its investment objective is the maximization of returns and per-share capital appreciation via investments mainly in Romanian equities and equity-linked securities. Fondul has been trading on the Bucharest Stock Exchange since 25 January 2011 and has been listed on the Specialist Fund Market of the London Stock Exchange by means of global depositary receipts ("GDRs") on 29 April 2015.

Franklin Templeton established an office in Bucharest in May 2010, with a team of 30 employees, including 6 locally based investment professionals who are further supported by the over 40 portfolio managers and analysts of the wider Templeton Emerging Markets team.

Franklin Resources, Inc. [NYSE:BEN] is a global investment management organization operating as Franklin Templeton Investments. Franklin Templeton Investments provides global and domestic investment management to retail, institutional and sovereign wealth clients in over 180 countries. Through specialized teams, the company has expertise across all asset classes including equity, fixed income, alternative and custom solutions. The company's more than 600 investment professionals are supported by its integrated, worldwide team of risk management professionals and global trading desk network. With offices in 35 countries, the California–based company has more than 65 years of investment experience and over \$728 billion in assets under management as of January 31, 2016. For more information, please visit <u>www.franklintempleton.co.uk</u>.

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