

Bank of Greece approves Pillarstone platform

- ***First independent corporate NPE platform to receive the formal Bank of Greece license***
- ***KKR, a leading international investor, to support recovery of Greek economy***
- ***Pillarstone to begin engaging with companies within the coming weeks***

London and Athens, 10 May 2017 – Pillarstone, the pan-European platform to support banks in managing exposures to non-core and underperforming assets established by KKR Credit with John Davison as co-investor and CEO, has today been granted an operating license by the Bank of Greece to manage non-performing exposures on behalf of banks in Greece. The approval is an important milestone in the Bank of Greece's efforts to reshape the country's banking sector and Greece's economic recovery.

As a result of the approval, Pillarstone will begin engaging directly with a number of Greek companies, following the framework agreement signed with KKR, Pillarstone, Alpha Bank and Eurobank in May 2016. The platform's sponsors will provide fresh long-term capital to large Greek corporate borrowers which, together with Pillarstone's operational expertise, will help them to stabilize, recover and grow for the benefit of all stakeholders. The platform also aims to support growing medium-sized, by European standards, businesses with strong export potential and lead consolidation where needed to create national champions. EBRD will selectively co-invest in partnership with KKR, Pillarstone and the banks.

Demetrios P. Mantzounis, Managing Director-CEO of Alpha Bank, stated: "Alpha Bank's partnership with Eurobank and EBRD, through the launch of Pillarstone's operation in Greece, is pivotal to the recovery of business activity and contributes to the successful implementation of the Bank's strategy for the active management of Non-Performing Exposures. This initiative will allow viable Greek companies to manage effectively current financial difficulties and return to growth based on solid foundations, while at the same time enhancing employment and the Greek economy".

Fokion Karavias, CEO of Eurobank, said: "The approval of the Pillarstone platform will allow us to take an important step towards supporting viable Greek corporates in financial difficulty to recover and grow, which will in turn safeguard jobs and boost the national economy. We will work constructively with Pillarstone, Alpha Bank and EBRD to start this process as quickly as possible."

Noel Edison, EBRD Director for Insurance and Financial Services, said: "The Pillarstone platform will provide Greek corporates in financial difficulty with new financing and turn-around operational expertise, which is of critical importance to supporting growth in the real economy. "

Johannes Huth, Member & Head of KKR EMEA, said: "This is an important milestone in the development of Pillarstone in Greece and will kick start the platform's direct engagement with a number of Greek companies. We believe that the provision of fresh capital and operational expertise to over-indebted businesses, and the ongoing support of Greece's largest banks in managing their underperforming exposures, can play a significant role in the recovery of the country's economy."

John Davison, CEO of Pillarstone, said: "We thank the Bank of Greece for their constructive approach throughout the approval process and we look forward to supporting the continued recovery of the

Greek banking sector. Pillarstone's solution can offer real benefits to Greek businesses and banks. By working closely with management teams and bank restructuring groups, we can help troubled businesses stabilize, recover and grow while also creating value for the banks and for the Greek economy. "

Pillarstone is a portfolio company of certain funds and accounts managed or advised by KKR Credit.

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About Pillarstone

Pillarstone is a platform established in 2015 by KKR Credit, with John Davison as co-investor and CEO, to partner with European banks to create value by managing their exposure to non-core and underperforming assets on their balance sheets. The platform provides long-term capital and operational expertise to help the businesses which underpin these non-performing and non-core exposures to stabilise, grow and create value. It is a unique approach based on a collaborative model that benefits a wide range of stakeholders. Pillarstone is a portfolio company of certain funds and accounts managed or advised by KKR Credit.

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