



Press release

For immediate release

## Ossiam Expands Minimum Variance Family of ETFs with Emerging Markets Minimum Variance ETF

**London, 15 March 2012:** Ossiam, the investment manager offering specialist exchange traded funds (ETFs) and an affiliate of Natixis Global Asset Management, will list its new ETF, the *Ossiam ETF Emerging Markets Minimum Variance NR* fund, on the London, Frankfurt, Milan and Paris stock exchanges later this month.

Bruno Poulin, CEO of Ossiam, commented, *“With the launch of our latest fund, Ossiam is providing an additional solution for investors seeking to build a global equity allocation. This new fund is targeted at investors who want exposure to emerging markets growth as part of their portfolio, but are wary of high volatility and risk. The launch of our latest product continues our strategy of setting the standard for minimum variance ETFs.”*

The fund will track a new index initiated by the Ossiam research team, the Ossiam Emerging Markets Minimum Variance Index (Bloomberg: OEMMVNR), calculated and published in real time by S&P<sup>1</sup>. The index includes a dynamic selection of emerging markets stocks, selected among the 400 most liquid stocks from the S&P IFCI Index. The S&P/IFCI<sup>®</sup> Index is a market capitalisation index which tracks the performance of major companies (over 1 800 stocks and ADR) in 20 emerging countries. Ossiam Emerging Markets Minimum Variance Index is weighted with the intention to minimise the volatility of the total portfolio. On average the volatility of the Ossiam Emerging Markets Minimum Variance index is at least 30%<sup>2</sup> lower than the S&P IFCI index, with a significant reduction in drawdowns.

The launch brings further scope to Ossiam’s already comprehensive minimum variance product suite, with funds designed to work synergistically to optimize investors’ global allocation while reducing overall portfolio risk.

The new ETF will offer access to a key market segment, emerging markets, with reduced risk and the aim of providing investors with further diversification opportunities following the launch of the Ossiam ETF iSTOXX Europe Minimum Variance NR, Ossiam ETF US Minimum Variance NR and Ossiam ETF FTSE Minimum Variance funds.

The new ETF is distributed and marketed through Natixis Global Asset Management (NGAM) UK Ltd. The funds will be listed on the London, Frankfurt, Milan and Paris stock exchanges beginning in the week commencing March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Hervé Guinamant, President and CEO of NGAM international distribution, said, *“We are launching the latest OSSIAM ETF in a context of growing interest among investors for emerging markets, which have experienced more than USD 14bn of net new assets so far in 2012. This makes the new product an excellent addition to our wide range of specialist investment solutions.”*

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1 In order to minimize any potential for conflicts caused by the fact that Ossiam determines the weight of the index components at each rebalancing date and acts as asset manager, Ossiam has retained an unaffiliated third party to calculate and publish the index, namely S&P.

2 Based on a backtest. Past volatility data is not a reliable indicator of future volatility. Investors should note that the reduction of the volatility can decrease the potential performance of the fund indexed to the strategy. Due to its exposure to equity markets, the Fund may experience significant volatility. Hence, investors should note that the value of their investment could fall as well as rise and they should accept that there is no guarantee that the underlying methodology of the Index will indeed result in a return above any comparable investment strategy or that they will recover their initial investment. This model assumes reinvestment of net dividends.

The fund has a total expense ratio of 0.75% per annum. Regular dividends received on a stock present in the index are reinvested in the index on a net basis

The fund will be listed on stock exchanges in the following order:

- March 19, 2012 on Xetra in Frankfurt
- March 19, 2012 on Borsa Italiana in Milan
- March 22, 2012 on NYSE Euronext Paris
- March 26, 2012 on the London Stock Exchange

- Ends -

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**Notes for editors:**

Further details of the fund's holdings are available at [www.ossiam.co.uk](http://www.ossiam.co.uk).

**About Ossiam**

Ossiam is an affiliate of Natixis Global Asset Management. Headquartered in Paris, France, Ossiam is the first ETF company in Europe to offer access to multiple financial asset classes via a diverse range of specialty ETFs and funds, based on quantitative and fundamental analysis. Its team has extensive experience in fund management, ETF structuring, fundamental and quantitative research and trading.

[www.ossiam.com](http://www.ossiam.com)

**About Natixis Global Asset Management**

Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A. is one of the 15 largest asset managers in the world based on assets under management.<sup>3</sup> Its affiliated asset management companies provide investment products that seek to enhance and protect the wealth and retirement assets of both institutional and individual investor clients. Its proprietary distribution network helps package and deliver its affiliates' products around the world. Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A. brings together the expertise of multiple specialized investment managers based in Europe, the United States and Asia to offer a wide spectrum of equity, fixed-income and alternative investment strategies.

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<sup>3</sup> *Cerulli Quantitative Update: Global Markets 2011, as of December 31, 2010 with \$713 bn AUM.*

Headquartered in Paris and Boston, Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A.'s assets under management totaled €543.9 billion as of December 31, 2011.

Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A. is part of Natixis. Listed on the Paris Stock Exchange, Natixis is a subsidiary of BPCE, the second-largest banking group in France. Natixis Global Asset Management, S.A.'s affiliated investment management firms and distribution and service groups include: Absolute Asia Asset Management; AEW Capital Management; AEW Europe; AlphaSimplex Group; Aurora Investment Management; Capital Growth Management; Caspian Private Equity; Darius Capital Partners; Gateway Investment Advisers; H2O Asset Management; Hansberger Global Investors; Harris Associates; IDFC Asset Management Company; Loomis, Sayles & Company; Natixis Asset Management; Natixis Multimanager; Ossiam; Reich & Tang Asset Management; Snyder Capital Management; and Vaughan Nelson Investment Management.

<http://ngam.natixis.com>