



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## AXIA Ventures Group named Best Investment Bank Greece by Euromoney Awards of Excellence for the third time since 2015

Athens, Greece, July 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 – **AXIA Ventures Group** (“AXIA”) was declared **Best Investment Bank Greece** for the third time since 2015 by the world-renowned independent organization **Euromoney Awards of Excellence**.

Among more than **1.500 applications worldwide**, **AXIA** consistently stands out as a **leading investment banking group** with widespread acceptance within the **global investment banking** and **institutional investor** community for handling with efficiency, ethos and speed some of the most complex investment transactions with a direct impact on the Greek economy and its prospects.

It is noteworthy that **AXIA Ventures Group**, an Investment Bank of Greek interests, with offices in **Athens, Nicosia, New York, Milan, Lisbon** and presence in **London**, is the only non-bulge bracket investment bank to have received this distinction in Greece; overtaking its world-renowned competitors from London and New York. The fact that this is the third time it has received this award since 2015, further accentuates this achievement.

Commenting on AXIA’s award, Mr. Alexandros Argyros Managing Director and Head of Investment Banking stated: *“Over the past three decades, the Euromoney Awards for Excellence have distinguished the investment banks that offer the highest quality of services, innovation and know-how to their clients on a global scale. This award – which we receive for the third time in the last five years – reflects the range of our capabilities, as well as the ability and commitment of our executives and team to design and implement solutions in a number of sectors of the economy. AXIA enjoys the trust of some of the largest global investment groups while in Greece we stand out for the very high profile, carefully selected and extremely innovative transactions we have completed under challenging financial conditions. We are very proud that in these difficult years for our country, we have been able to contribute to the recovery of the Greek economy and the reestablishment of its credibility on the world stage”.*

Some of the standout transactions implemented in Greece – just for 2019 which this distinction is referred to – include:

- The strategic **€650m share capital increase** of **Lamda Development S.A.** via a rights issue in order to fund the purchase of the shares of Hellinikon S.A. and kick-start the emblematic urban development plan of the old Athens airport. AXIA assumed the role of **Global Coordinator in the largest non-bank equity offering in Greece** for the last decade, attracting significant foreign capital
- The merger of **Grivalia Properties**, the second largest real estate investment company in Greece, with **Eurobank**, which resulted in a ground-breaking deal that allowed Eurobank to strengthen its capital position in a challenging period for the Greek banking system. AXIA played an instrumental role as **Financial Advisor** to **Grivalia**, assisting the company in its negotiations with all involved stakeholders and the successful completion of the transaction
- AXIA participated in the **first sizable public securitization of non performing exposures** in Greece with a gross book value of **€2 billion**, acting as **Financial Advisor** to one of the largest global institutional investors looking to position dynamically in the emerging Greek NPL market

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- Two systemic banks, **Alpha Bank** and **Piraeus Bank**, trusted **AXIA** in their effort to reopen the public **Tier II market** of the country for the first time after the decade-long crisis. AXIA acted as **Co-Manager** in the two consecutive Tier II issuances of **€400 million** and **€500 million** by Piraeus Bank. AXIA also assumed the role of **Bondholder Agent** in the **€500 million** Tier II issuance of Alpha Bank which constitutes the first such issuance under its new EuroMedium Term Note (EMTN) program
- Finally, AXIA acted as **Co-Manager** for the issuance of a **€670 million green bond** by **Ellaktor Group** that attracted the interest of many international institutional investors

Apart from the aforementioned transactions, AXIA Ventures Group, is maintaining a **leading position** in **corporate restructurings** and **single credit sales** by utilizing its close **relationships of trust** with some of the world's foremost **institutional investors** and has taken on various roles in some of the most innovative, complex and high-profile transactions that took place in Greece.

These are only some of the many activities of **AXIA Ventures Group** in Greece that rendered it - for yet another year - as the **leading investment bank** in the country. Among other things, its **Equity Research** team currently covers 26 listed companies in Greece, which represent on average about 90% of the daily trading volume of the Athens Stock Exchange, having by far the largest coverage in the Greek capital markets.

#### **About AXIA Ventures Group Ltd**

AXIA Ventures Group Ltd ("AXIA"), a member of AXIA Financial Group ("AFG"), was founded in 2008 and is a privately-owned investment banking group providing financial advisory and capital market-related services to corporate and institutional clients. AXIA is headquartered in Nicosia, Cyprus, regulated by the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (License No: 086/07) and fully licensed to provide financial advisory services in many financial markets around the world. AXIA has presence in Nicosia (headquarters), Athens (branch), Lisbon (branch), New York (subsidiary), Milan (representative office) and London (representative office). For more information on AXIA and its services, you can visit the AXIA website at <http://www.axiavg.com>.

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