



**Press Release**

17 February 2017

**Central Bank of Ireland Issues Warning on Unauthorised Investment Firm/Investment Business Firm**

The Central Bank of Ireland ('Central Bank') today (17 February 2017) published the name of an unauthorised firm, **Kawano and Associates (Japan)**. **Kawano and Associates (Japan)** is not authorised by the Central Bank as an investment firm, investment business firm or to provide investment advice.

A list of unauthorised firms published to date is available on the Central Bank [website](#).

It is a criminal offence for an unauthorised firm/person to provide financial services in Ireland that would require an authorisation under the relevant legislation which the Central Bank is the responsible body for enforcing. Consumers should be aware that, if they deal with a firm/person who is not authorised, they are not eligible for compensation from the Investor Compensation Scheme.

Any person wishing to contact the Central Bank of Ireland with information regarding such firms/persons may telephone (01) 224 4000. This line is also available to the public to check if a firm is authorised. Since obtaining the necessary legal powers in August 1998, the names of **289** unauthorised firms have been published by the Central Bank.

**Ends**

Media queries: Press Office: (0)1 224 6299

**Notes to editors**

The name of the above firm is published under the Central Bank (Supervision and Enforcement) Act 2013.