

Press release



M&G expands its Direct Lending origination team with key appointment in the Netherlands

London, 22 April 2025 – M&G Investments today announces that Gijs Boumans has joined its Direct Lending team, based in Amsterdam. The newly created role is in line with M&G's strategy to expand its origination capabilities in Northern Europe, and Gijs will report to Robert Scheer, co-Head of Private Credit Origination, based in Frankfurt.

With a 16-year career at ABN, where he held senior roles in corporate lending and leveraged finance, Gijs will primarily be responsible for sourcing and executing loans in the Netherlands. His extensive experience will be instrumental in spearheading M&G's efforts in the region, working with the 10-strong Direct Lending team and around 50 professionals in the wider private credit platform. The team has a 15-year track record and has deployed over €3 billion into deals since it initially started lending in the UK. M&G has since sought to widen its origination network in Europe with companies, sponsors and advisors, with a focus on originating loans in the UK, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Benelux and Nordic regions.

Private, smaller to mid-market companies make up the majority of the European corporate universe, contributing significantly to economic growth and job creation. The increasing funding gap for these organisations, as a result of bank retrenchment in Europe, underpins the need for alternative sources of financing and the opportunity for institutional clients to step in to fill the gap through private credit and get better returns compared to traditional publicly-listed fixed-income assets.

Robert Scheer, said: "We are pleased to welcome Gijs to M&G. He has an established origination network and an excellent understanding of the corporate lending market that will enhance our capabilities to the benefit of our clients. Private Credit is expected to attract substantial amounts of capital, projected to hit \$2.8 trillion by 2028 almost doubling the 2022 figure¹. These companies are also opting to stay private for longer, offering potentially high running income streams. As the outlook for interest rates and inflation remains uncertain, the floating-rate nature of the asset class is particularly attractive for income-seeking investors."

Rebecca O'Dwyer, co-head of Private Credit Origination, added: "M&G's Direct Lending team has expanded by aligning our clients' needs with the increasing demand for debt solutions from companies. We see growing opportunities in our core focus area, which has always been more conservative senior, secured lending with lower leverage. By expanding our origination team to the Netherlands, we will be better able to serve companies and financial sponsors in Europe."

M&G's private corporate credit lending capabilities are part of M&G's broader €90bn Private Market platform and stretch back nearly 25 years, when it was the first non-bank lender to invest in European leveraged loans. The Direct Lending team has a heritage in structuring innovative corporate debt solutions for mid-market companies across the full spectrum of senior cashflow and asset-based lending and was one of the first asset managers to lend directly to companies in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis.

¹ *Preqin 2024 Global Report*

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Notes to Editors

Gijs Boumans joins from ABN Amro, where he spent 15 years in key roles. He embarked on his professional journey as a trainee, subsequently joining the corporate banking team, where he adeptly managed client relationships for five years. Following this, Gijs progressed to the Corporate Lending division, serving as a Director responsible for leading deal teams focused on corporate acquisitions and various investment-grade financings. For the past seven years, he was an integral part of the Leveraged Finance team, ultimately serving as Sub-Team Lead and Executive Director. In this role, he specialised in originating and executing corporate acquisitions for private equity firms. Gijs holds a master's degree in International Business Studies from Maastricht University.

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About M&G Investments

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For nearly nine decades M&G Investments has been helping its customers to prosper by putting investments to work, which in turn creates jobs, homes and vital infrastructure in the real economy. Its investment solutions span equities, fixed income, multi asset, cash, private debt, infrastructure and real estate. M&G plc recognises the importance of responsible investing, is a signatory (both as an asset manager and owner) to the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), and is targeting net zero emissions by 2050, across our investment portfolios and operations.

M&G Investments is a signatory to the Net Zero Asset Manager's Initiative and has committed to work with clients to align investments with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

For more information, please visit: www.mandg.com

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