

## Media release

19 July 2018

### **Gijs Koning becomes Managing Director and Head of Portfolio Management & Operations at VanEck Europe**

VanEck continues to grow its European business, focusing on further expansion of its product offerings.

Gijs Koning has been appointed Head of Portfolio Management & Operations at VanEck Europe. Koning co-founded the Dutch ETF provider Think ETFs together with Martijn Rozemuller, the new Head of VanEck Europe, which VanEck acquired in the first half of 2018. Together they now form the newly created European Board of Operations.

“VanEck has been working with investors in Europe for many decades. We think our platform, which offers numerous funds at critical mass, and this new management team, will help effectively meet investors’ needs for many years to come,” said Jan van Eck, CEO of VanEck.

As Managing Director, Koning is responsible for portfolio management, product development, tax and accounting at VanEck Europe. Prior to his role at Think ETFs, Koning was a partner at Optiver, a global trading company, where he traded stock options both on the trading floor and electronically.

“I look forward to working with my new colleagues and see great opportunities to grow our European product offering. With the combined expertise of Think ETFs and VanEck, I am certain we will launch innovative and differentiated products on the European market,” Gijs Koning said.

“We see increasing interest in ETFs from private and institutional investors in Europe, which is why reinforcing our European position is a logical step to meeting the higher demand in a growth market. Gijs Koning's expertise will enable us to further expand our product offering and offer our clients well-designed ETF products,” added Jan van Eck. Koning will be based in Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, the company's third European office along with Frankfurt am Main in Germany and Pfäffikon in Switzerland.

The acquisition of Think ETFs has increased the company's assets under management in UCITS funds to USD 1.8 billion. As a global asset manager, VanEck manages assets over USD 48 billion and is among the ten largest ETF providers in the U.S.

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## **About VanEck**

VanEck has a history of looking beyond the financial markets to identify trends that are likely to create impactful investment opportunities. We were one of the first U.S. asset managers to offer investors access to international markets. This set the tone for the firm's drive to identify asset classes and trends – including gold investing in 1968, emerging markets in 1993, and exchange traded funds in 2006 – that subsequently shaped the investment management industry.

Today, VanEck offers active and passive strategies with compelling exposures supported by well-designed investment processes. As of 30 April 2018, VanEck managed approximately \$48 billion in assets, including mutual funds, ETFs, and institutional accounts. The firm's capabilities range from core investment opportunities to more specialized exposures to enhance portfolio diversification. Our actively managed strategies are fueled by in-depth, bottom-up research and security selection from portfolio managers with direct experience in the sectors and regions in which they invest. Investability, liquidity, diversity, and transparency are key to the experienced decision-making around market and index selection underlying VanEck's passive strategies.

Since our founding in 1955, putting our clients' interests first, in all market environments, has been at the heart of the firm's mission.