

Press release

M&G Investments appoints new Head of Institutional Business

17 April 2023

We are pleased to announce that **Naleni Govender** will join M&G Investments in mid-April 2023 as the Head of Institutional Business. She will also become a member of the M&G Executive Committee.

Naleni joins us from Ashburton Investments, where she held the role of Director and Head of Institutional Distribution. She has more than 18 years of experience in the investment industry, having spent time in a variety of business development, investment consulting and analyst roles.

Her educational background includes a BCom (Economics and Finance) degree from the University of Natal, and she completed the Post-Graduate Leadership Acceleration Program at the Gordon Institute of Business Science in 2018. She holds a PGDip in Financial Planning, and is a qualified CFP® professional.

Explained Pieter Hugo, Chief Client and Distribution Officer, “Naleni will be taking over from Valdron Theron, who will be leaving M&G at the end of June. After more than 13 years of service to M&G, Valdron has decided he would like to pursue one of his life-long passions -- the education of others. He will be transitioning his career into academia, joining his alma mater, Stellenbosch University, in a lecturing capacity.

“The overlap between the two will give Naleni ample time to work with Valdron to ensure a smooth transition for our business and a seamless handover so that all our clients remain in very capable and knowledgeable hands. At the same time, Valdron has agreed to remain involved with M&G on a part-time basis going forward, as may be required by the business and in collaboration with his new employer.

“Our Institutional business is growing off the back of significant domestic and international institutional investor demand. We look forward to welcoming Naleni to M&G and are confident that she will be an excellent leader for our expanding Institutional Business team due to her strong client-centric approach, thorough understanding of the institutional market, and extensive experience working with a wide variety of South African institutional investors,” Hugo concluded.

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For more information, please contact Lynn Bolin, Head of Communications and Media at M&G Investments, at 083 443 0105 or lynn.bolin@mandg.co.za.

About M&G Investments

M&G Investments is a global asset manager with operations in 28 countries, over 5 million retail clients and more than R7.0 trillion in assets under management and administration. We are also one of South Africa's top 10 asset managers, with approximately R320 billion in assets under management (as of February 2023). For over 25 years we have built up an admirable local track record for delivering consistently strong performance for our clients over time, most recently with the M&G Equity and M&G Dividend Maximiser Funds having been ranked #1 and #3 in their ASISA category over the 20 years to 31 December 2022 – and as top-quartile performers over most periods in between. The M&G Balanced Fund has also been ranked in the top 25% of its ASISA category over nearly all measured periods out to 15 years over the same period.

We are proud to have achieved a certified Level 1 B-BBEE rating in 2021, and are committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within the communities in which we live and work. We take our responsibilities of growing and protecting our clients' hard-earned savings very seriously, so that our clients and their families can create better futures for themselves and future generations.

Finally, not only are we long-standing active and engaged shareholders, but we integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors in our valuations-based investment process. We offer our clients a range of world-class investment solutions to meet diverse risk and return requirements, from AI-based global equity and property funds to top-performing local equity, income and multi-asset funds.

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