

# Welcome

Welcome to the WP Global Partners and Selene Investment Partners Annual Conference. At this year's meeting, we will devote one full day to presenting two topics that we believe are of significant interest and importance to private equity investors. We'll devote the first half of the first day to investigating private equity opportunities that are emerging in Africa and South America. The second half of the first day, we will address the current market crisis and its likely evolution from a variety of perspectives. Some of the most knowledgeable people will speak on these two topics, and provide their unique insights as well as their perspectives on where the best investment opportunities may be in the current investment environment. The second day's focus will be on portfolios and portfolio companies. We will hear from General Partners of funds as well as CEO's of operating companies.

On Tuesday, we will discuss the following two topics:

## **Searching the Ends of the Earth for Returns**

- Investments in emerging markets have offered competitive returns over the past several years, but while investors seem well informed of the opportunities in Asia or Europe, many private equity investors are uncertain about opportunities in Africa or South America. Based on growth and size of these continents, they are perhaps too large to ignore, but risks specific to the markets and the current economic environment raises questions as to the timing of an investment in these markets. Abundant with natural resources, these continents are outpacing many other continents in growth. Increased wealth is creating global companies and a growing population that demands new technology and services. Over the past 5 years, private equity investments in Africa and South America have increased more than fivefold reaching over \$6 billion in 2007<sup>1</sup>. Are they "the last great opportunity?" Are we too early? Today we will examine opportunities, risks and specific strategies in these markets with several seasoned investors.

## **The Largest Global Financial Workout in History**

- Global markets are in crisis. Global economic output is on a decline. Asset prices remain unstable. The efficacy of recent government interventions is still unclear. Are we transitioning into a new economic regime? What does this imply for the capital and real estate markets? How will public policy adapt? Our speakers will discuss these questions with us.

Wednesday will be devoted to an in-depth discussion on some of the fund and operating company investments that WP Global Partners and Selene Investment

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<sup>1</sup> Emerging Markets Private Equity Association (EMPEA) estimates



Partners have made in the past 12 months. The discussions will include presentations by the Selene Investment and Servicing Team, General Partners of funds and CEO's of portfolio companies. Many of these and other investments represent investment themes and strategies that we have discussed at sessions over the past five years.

We believe this meeting will not only be informative and educational, but challenging for all of you. We promise to make these two days interesting and worth your time.

WP Global Partners  
Selene Investment Partners

