

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission would like to draw the attention of the investing public to the warning of the European Banking Authority (EBA)<sup>1</sup> on the risks arising from the purchase, possession or trading of virtual currencies, for example the Bitcoin.

Since currently there are no specific regulations for the protection of persons who transact in virtual currencies, it is important that the public is informed about the dangers associated with them, including possible loss of money.

For more information, the warning of the European Banking Authority is available at the following link:

[www.eba.europa.eu/documents/10180/16136/EBA+Warning+on+Virtual+Currencies.pdf](http://www.eba.europa.eu/documents/10180/16136/EBA+Warning+on+Virtual+Currencies.pdf)

A report on the characteristics, functions and risks of virtual currency has also been issued by the European Central Bank and is available at the following address:

[www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/pdf/other/virtualcurrencyschemes201210en.pdf](http://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/pdf/other/virtualcurrencyschemes201210en.pdf)

**Nicosia, February 6, 2014**

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<sup>1</sup> The European Banking Authority (EBA) is a regulatory agency of the European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) of the European Union, it provides advice to EU institutions in the areas of banking, payments and e-money regulation, as well as on issues related to corporate governance, auditing and financial reporting. Its overall objectives are to maintain financial stability in the EU, to safeguard the integrity, efficiency and orderly functioning of the banking sector and to foster consumer protection in financial services across the EU.