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Aura Group Secures Strategic Investment from Asian UHNW Family Offices

Aura Group is pleased to announce that it has secured undisclosed strategic investments from the Thailand-based 2W Group Holdings (“2W Group”), a family-owned investment vehicle founded by Schwin Chiaravanont and Best Magic Ventures (“BMV”), the private investment vehicle for the Hong Kong-based Huang family.

The 2W Group is a branch of one of the largest family-owned business networks in Asia Pacific. 2W Group focuses on venture capital and private equity investments in early stage companies and distressed assets throughout region. Its investment philosophy favours novel and scalable businesses that can leverage the ability to derive value from 2W Group’s strategic networks in Asia.

Best Magic Ventures focuses on venture capital and property development in Australia. Best Magic has completed over \$45 million of developments in Sydney’s lower North Shore, and is currently developing over \$70m of new housing. The group is also in due diligence to acquire another 2 sites equivalent to approx. \$90m of new housing. The Huang family were the founders of Hong Kong-listed printing giant Beijing Enterprises Clean Energy Group Limited, formerly known as Jin Cai Holdings Company Limited (1250.HK) which currently has a market capitalisation of HKD\$10 Billion.

The investment in the Aura Group follows a string of successful investments by both families in Aura-managed venture capital vehicles, including global leader in wearable analytics Catapult Group International Limited (ASX:CAT), South Korean small cell pioneer Juni Global, specialist lender to strata corporations Lannock Strata Finance and Australia’s leading online bespoke menswear retailer InStitchu.com.

The investment will give the strategic investors access to Aura’s unique deal flow and family office and private banking services. Aura will benefit from access to 2W Group and BMV’s networks, distribution channels, and other synergies throughout Asia-Pacific. The funds raised will be used for principal investment opportunities and to fund Aura’s expansion into Asia.

“The Aura Group has an exceptional team that have built a multinational business with an expertise in early stage companies, a space that 2W Group is very passionate about. The primary jurisdictions that Aura operates in, being Australia and Singapore, are also both very well regulated, stable, and provide exciting investment opportunities. Australia is further supported by recent favorable exchange rates and a shift away from a commodity/mining based economy to a new era of innovation, supported by new Government initiatives. Ultimately we will mutually benefit from tapping into each other’s networks and I look forward to working closely with the Aura team in the years to come.” Mr. Chiaravanont said.

“The Aura Group is extremely excited about the strategic investment by 2W Group and Best Magic Ventures. After working closely together with both investors in the past it became apparent that a formal partnership made sense in light of our growth plans, particularly given our expansion into Asia. We expect the investment to lead to further opportunities with other UHNW investors and family offices in the region.” Aura Group Managing Director Calvin Ng said.

The investment is timely as the Aura Group will soon be launching its first SIV Compliant Early Stage Venture Capital Limited Partnership later this year.

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For further information please contact:

Calvin Ng

Aura Group

E: cng@auracapital.com.au

M: +61 458 888 888

About Aura Group

Aura Group is a global financial services business specialising in corporate advisory, wealth management and principal investments with offices in Sydney, Melbourne and Singapore.

Aura Group is led by a team of professionals possessing a wealth of experience across investment banking, funds management, equities research, law, accounting, taxation and business advisory.

The group's activities are organized into three operating divisions: corporate advisory, wealth management, principal investments. Its suite of invested portfolio companies are predominantly within the financial services, technology and professional services sectors.