News Release

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

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Global Experts Poll: Confidence Severely Lacking in the State of the Global Economy

21 September 2011

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- New quarterly *Global Confidence Index* polls 1,500 experts from business, government, international organizations and academia who are members of the Forum's Network of Global Agenda Councils
- Less than 10% express confidence in the state of the global economy over the next 12 months
- Less than 10% express confidence in the state of global governance over the next 12 months
- Access the full analysis and results online: Global Confidence Index

Geneva, Switzerland, 21 September 2011 – The World Economic Forum's *Global Confidence Index* shows very little confidence worldwide in the state of the global economy and in global governance over the next 12 months.

Over 1,000 global experts from the public and private sectors were surveyed; one-half of the respondents are pessimistic about the global economic outlook and one-quarter anticipates there will be an economic disruption during the next year. One in four say there is a lack of global leadership to deal with problems during this time and a majority fear a geopolitical as well as societal upheaval, according to the quarterly *Global Confidence Index*.

Perspectives outside the private sector were the most bearish with almost 54% of the respondents indicating that they are not confident in the state of the global economy; just over 40% expressed little confidence in the economy in the next 12 months.

All respondents are members of the World Economic Forum's Network of Global Agenda Councils. This is the only research initiative of its kind that targets such a unique and large group of international experts who focus on monitoring key trends, identifying global risk and mapping their interlinkages.

"Lack of confidence in the state of the global economy is not surprising, but the corresponding lack of confidence in global governance and global cooperation is far more troubling," noted Lee Howell, Forum Managing Director who heads the Forum's Risk Response Network. "Such a pessimistic economic prognosis shows the great need for visionary leaders and collaborative leadership, particularly when 60% of respondents doubt the ability of leaders to cooperate globally."

This new quarterly survey is an ongoing joint initiative with the Risk Response Network which is responsible for developing the *Global Risk Report* published each January by the World Economic Forum. The next *Global Confidence Index* results will be available on 16 November and then again on 23 January ahead of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2012 in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland.

Notes to Editors

For more information about the Risk Response Network and survey

results, visit http://www.weforum.org/RRN
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