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For Immediate Release

SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
President and Group CEO Shuhei Abe
(TSE1: 8739)

Mirai Creation Fund II
Invests in AP Ventures, a Venture Capital Fund Located in London
- A diverse portfolio of investments with a strong emphasis on hydrogen technologies—

TOKYO—July 8, 2019—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE1: 8739) today announced that its Mirai Creation Fund II—established in July 2018—has invested in AP Ventures, an venture capital fund with extensive experience investing in hydrogen technology.

AP Ventures Outline

AP Ventures invests in advanced technology companies which tackle the global environmental and sustainability challenges. It primarily focuses on hydrogen technology, and its portfolio includes several Western start-ups involved in the hydrogen value chain, FCVs, hydrogen storage, and more. AP Ventures' managing partner, Andrew Hinkly, has leveraged his experience in the automotive and mining industries to build a considerable network of hydrogen-related contacts. Through this investment in the AP Ventures fund, Mirai Creation hopes to considerably expand Fund II's investment in technologies that promote a hydrogen economy, while also earning investment returns.

Mirai Creation Fund I and Mirai Creation Fund II Summaries

The Mirai Creation Fund I began operations in November 2015 with financing from three companies: Toyota Motor Corporation, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, and SPARX, the Fund's general partner. Ultimately, the Fund received contributions from 20 companies, including the above three. Placing intelligent technologies, robotics, and hydrogen-economy technologies as core technologies of the future, Fund I has invested in approximately 50 companies and projects—from the US, the UK, Israel, Singapore, and Japan—that possess innovative technologies in these fields. In H2 2018, SPARX began managing the Mirai Creation Fund II, which targets the three existing Mirai Creation fields along with the two additional areas of electrification and new materials. As of May 31, 2019, the combined AUM for Fund I and Fund II is ¥109.3 billion.

Mirai Creation Fund investment track record: <https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/investment/>

- For inquiries related to this release, contact:
Public Relations, SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
Tel: +81-3-6711-9100 / Fax: +81-3-6711-9101
pr_media@sparxgroup.com