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VanEck Australia Awarded China RQFII License

Sydney, **16 June 2017 –** VanEck Australia is pleased to announce that it has been granted a Renminbi Qualified Foreign Institutional Investor (RQFII) License by the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC). VanEck is honoured to be one of only two Australian asset managers approved for such a license.

Following CSRC's grant of the RQFII License, China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) has awarded VanEck significant quota to invest in China's domestic securities markets.

The License and quota have been awarded to VanEck Australia under the Australian RQFII program, which was announced in November 2014 by the Chinese government. The RQFII program allows select foreign institutions to invest directly in Mainland China's bond and equity markets.

Arian Neiron, Managing Director, VanEck Australia, said, "VanEck is honoured to be only the second Australian asset manager to be granted an RQFII License, giving us the ability to invest directly in the China domestic securities market and give our clients access to broad exposure to the Chinese economy.

"China A-shares represent the largest and most liquid shares listed on mainland China's two main stock exchanges, Shanghai and Shenzhen, yet they are under-represented in most institutional portfolios.

"That's because historically, these shares were only available for purchase by mainland Chinese citizens. But as foreign investment restrictions have been lifted, select foreign institutions, now including VanEck, are being authorised to invest directly in these key growth markets." Neiron said.

"VanEck is now well positioned to assist institutional clients obtain increased exposure to China securities. We are also assessing new opportunities to apply the firm's quota in expanding our ETF offerings. China continues to provide tremendous opportunity as the world's second-largest economy and with one of the highest growth rates, currently at 6.7% according to the International Monetary Fund."

Investors are able to invest in China A-shares through VanEck's existing China ETF. The <u>VanEck Vectors</u> <u>ChinaAMC CSI 300 ETF</u> (ASX code: CETF) tracks China's CSI 300 Index, which includes the largest and most liquid shares listed on the Shanghai and Shenzhen exchanges. CETF enables Australian investors to access a diversified portfolio of the 300 largest and most liquid China A-shares in a single trade on ASX.

ENDS

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The US Fund is subject to elevated risks associated with investments in Chinese securities, including A-shares, which include, among others, political and economic instability, inflation, confiscatory taxation, nationalisation, and expropriation, market volatility, less reliable financial information, differences in accounting, auditing, and financial standards and requirements, and uncertainty of implementation of Chinese law. In addition, the US Fund is also subject to liquidity and valuation risks, currency risk, non- diversification risk, and other risks associated with foreign and emerging markets investments.