



**PRESS RELEASE**  
 Leuven / 29 October 2020 / 5.40 PM  
 Regulated information

# QUEST FOR GROWTH

Quarterly update 30 September 2020

## INVESTMENT MANAGER REPORT



### SCHEDULE FOR PUBLICATION

29 October 2020: 5.40 PM

press release available at  
[www.questforgrowth.com](http://www.questforgrowth.com)

### Results

Thanks to the listed equities in the portfolio, Quest for Growth performed well in the third quarter, with an increase in net asset value of 6%. Since the start of the year, the net asset value has increased despite the coronavirus crisis by 3.9%, to € 8.43, compared to € 8.12 at 31 December 2019. Over the first nine months of 2020 the fund recorded a profit of € 5.3 million (€ 0.32 per ordinary share), compared to a profit of € 7.9 million (€ 0.47 per ordinary share) over the first three quarters of 2019.

Despite the positive development of the underlying portfolio, the share price fell 6.8%, to € 5.50 on 30 June 2020, against € 5.90 at the end of 2019. The price discount compared with the net asset value increased further, reaching 34.8% at the end of the third quarter.

### Market environment

European equity markets made only weak profits in the third quarter. Since the start of the year, the European STOXX Europe 600 Net Return stock index has lost another 12%. This development is in sharp contrast to the dizzying rise in US tech stocks over the summer. Despite a limited correction in September, the Nasdaq Composite Index still posted a profit of 24% for the first nine months of the year, while the NYSE FANG + Index, which includes stocks such as Apple and Amazon, even recorded an increase by 74%. The valuations of some of these stocks - one of which is Tesla's, valued at some \$ 400 billion - show a marked exaggeration in certain segments of the stock market.

### Investments in listed companies

The portfolio of listed equities also performed very well in the third quarter, as a result of which the performance estimated since the start of the year is slightly positive, which is significantly better than the European stock market indices. The stocks in the portfolio that performed the worst were TKH Group, Jensen-Group and Akka Technologies. Steico (+ 82%) and Pharmagest (+37%) contributed the most to the results of the last three quarters. Kingspan, Nexus and Stratec also climbed vigorously.

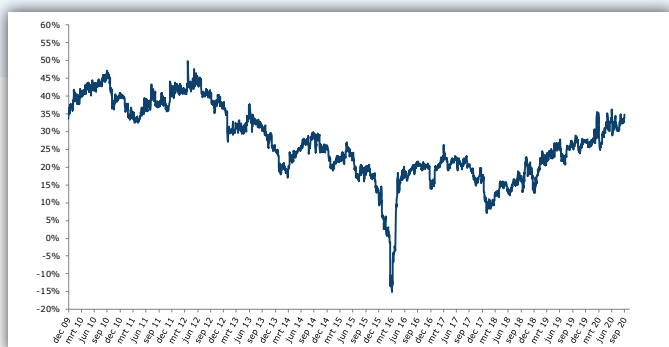
A total of nine listed equities were removed from the portfolio in 2020: Sequana, Robertet, CFE and Norma Group in the first quarter, EVS, Akka and Aliaxis in the second and Cenit and Aures in the third. In the first quarter Tubize, Stratec and Gurit were acquired, while in the second quarter Kerry, LPKF and Varta joined the portfolio. Shares of the latter company, a producer of micropiles, were sold again in September after the price nearly doubled. The only new purchase made in the summer was ABO Wind, a German developer of renewable

### VALUATION QUEST FOR GROWTH

Stock Price	Net asset value/share		
	30/09/2020	30/09/2020	30/06/2020
5.50 EUR	8.43 EUR	7.96 EUR	8.12 EUR
Number of shares	16,774,226	16,774,226	16,774,226

Discount of the share price versus Net Asset Value: 34.79%  
 Source: Estimate by Capricorn Partners NV

### EVOLUTION SHARE PRICE AND NET ASSET VALUE



energy projects. Despite a very strong pipeline of international projects, the share is showing an attractive valuation.

### Investments in unlisted companies

Quest for Growth has made a new investment of € 2 million in a growing company whose name will be revealed later. It is a co-investment with the Capricorn Digital Growth Fund, a venture capital fund in which Quest for Growth is also invested. Quest for Growth also made a follow-on investment in Miracor Medical, Sensolus and Scaled Access.

### Investments in venture capital funds

Capricorn ICT Arkiv has made a follow-on investment in Indigo Diabetes. This company has finalized a financing round of 38 million € in order to continue the development of its promising Multi-Biomarker Sensor for people suffering from diabetes. Capricorn ICT Arkiv also participated in the € 3.5 million financing round of industrial IoT company Sensolus in order to accelerate the international growth of the company. The fund also made a follow-on investment in Lindacare and Scaled Access.

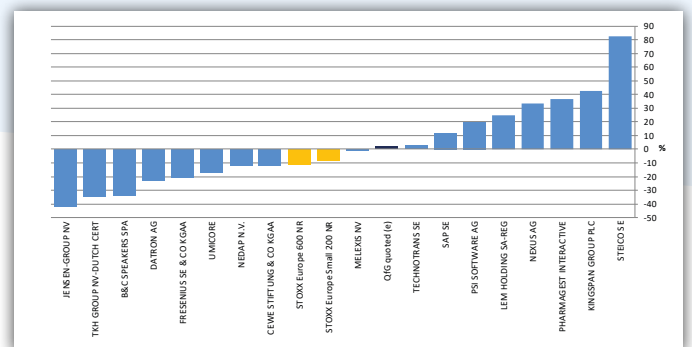
The Capricorn Sustainable Chemistry Fund has made a new investment in Zeopore Technologies. This spinout from KULeuven is a leading Belgian technology developer active in the development and commercialization of cost-effective mesoporous zeolites for catalytic applications. The funding will be used to accelerate the commercialization of mesoporous zeolites in refining and petrochemical processes, to expand the infrastructure for industrial catalytic testing, and to continue research into new opportunities in the chemical transformation of renewable feedstocks, such as biomass. and plastic waste. The increased catalytic efficiency achieved with Zeopore's technology platform significantly reduces CO2 emissions in the existing petrochemical industry. This direct impact, combined with the essential role that Zeopore's technology is likely to play in future developments in renewable raw materials, makes it highly relevant in the transition to a carbon neutral industry. The fund also made a follow-on investment in DMC Technologies.

The Capricorn Digital Growth Fund made further investments in the third quarter of this year. The first was a co-investment with Capricorn ICT Arkiv in Indigo Diabetes, a young company that produces high-tech medical solutions based on nanophotonics. In addition, the Capricorn Digital Growth Fund has invested in a growing company whose name will be disclosed later (a co-investment with Quest for Growth).

### Outlook

Listed equities exhibit increasingly large valuation spreads. The reduction of stocks held that show high valuations can therefore continue as in the past months, while the search for stocks with a more attractive valuation continues. On the unlisted investment side, the aim is still to expand the portfolio into sustainable chemicals and digital technologies, while Bluebee's successful exit shows that existing holdings are likely to contain potential capital gains.

### PERFORMANCE PER SHARE IN QUOTED PORTFOLIO SINCE 31 DECEMBER 2019



# FINANCIAL ASSETS

## BREAKDOWN AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

### Shares quoted companies

Company	Sector / Market	Number of shares	Change since 31/12/2019	Currency	Share price	Valuation in €	in % of Net Asset Value
	<b>Software &amp; Services</b>						
CEWE STIFTUNG	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	64,498	3,998	€	93.5000	6,030,563	4.26%
PSI SOFTWARE	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	143,783	49,124	€	24.9000	3,580,197	2.53%
SAP	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	26,200	-1,800	€	132.7600	3,478,312	2.46%
	<b>Technology Hardware</b>						
B&C SPEAKERS	Borsa Italiana	165,004	30,510	€	9.3000	1,534,537	1.08%
LEM HOLDING	SWX Swiss Exchange	2,221	825	CHF	1,726.0000	3,548,173	2.51%
LPKF	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	90,000	90,000	€	22.6500	2,038,500	1.44%
NEDAP	Euronext Amsterdam	102,098	28,114	€	42.5000	4,339,165	3.07%
TKH GROUP	Euronext Amsterdam	160,070	57,750	€	31.2000	4,994,184	3.53%
	<b>Semiconductors</b>						
MELEXIS	Euronext Brussels	27,000	-1,500	€	66.4500	1,794,150	1.27%
	<b>Healthcare Equipment &amp; Services</b>						
FRESENIUS	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	86,000	6,000	€	38.8300	3,339,380	2.36%
NEXUS	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	78,764	-59,466	€	46.0000	3,623,144	2.56%
PHARMAGEST INTERACTIVE	Euronext Paris	73,046	-19,253	€	82.0000	5,989,772	4.23%
STRATEC	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	36,060	36,060	€	124.4000	4,485,864	3.17%
	<b>Pharma &amp; Biotech</b>						
TUBIZE	Euronext Brussels	52,588	52,588	€	80.0000	4,207,040	2.97%
	<b>Electrical &amp; Engineering</b>						
ABO WIND	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	110,000	110,000	€	26.0000	2,860,000	2.02%
DATRON	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	119,000	0	€	8.6500	1,029,350	0.73%
JENSEN GROUP	Euronext Brussels	152,876	0	€	20.0000	3,057,520	2.16%
TECHNOTRANS	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	149,024	-675	€	19.2200	2,864,241	2.02%
	<b>Materials</b>						
GURIT	SWX Swiss Exchange	2,431	2,431	CHF	1,958.0000	4,405,681	3.11%
KERRY GROUP	Euronext Dublin	30,000	30,000	€	109.5000	3,285,000	2.32%
KINGSPAN	Euronext Dublin	35,000	-31,000	€	77.7000	2,719,500	1.92%
STEICO	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	136,078	-44,002	€	49.6000	6,749,469	4.77%
UMICORE	Euronext Brussels	65,000	-10,000	€	35.5500	2,310,750	1.63%
						<b>82,264,492</b>	<b>58.15%</b>

### Shares unquoted companies

Company	Sector / Market	Change since 31/12/2019	Currency	Valuation in €	in % of Net Asset Value
HALIODX	Pharma & Biotech		€	2,460,017	1.74%
MIRACOR	Healthcare Equipment & Services	1,200,000	€	2,849,932	2.01%
				<b>5,309,949</b>	<b>3.75%</b>

### Co-investissements Capricorn Funds

Company	Sector / Market	Change since 31/12/2019	Currency	Valuation in €	in % of Net Asset Value
C-LECTA	Materials		€	3,785,670	2.68%
NEW INVESTMENT TO BE DISCLOSED		2,000,000	€	2,000,000	1.41%
NGDATA	Software & Services	148,154	€	686,679	0.49%
PROLUPIN	Materials	1,999,998	€	2,041,589	1.44%
SCALED ACCESS	Software & Services	227,922	€	541,605	0.38%
SENSOLUS	Software & Services	75,414	€	690,939	0.49%
				<b>9,746,482</b>	<b>6.89%</b>

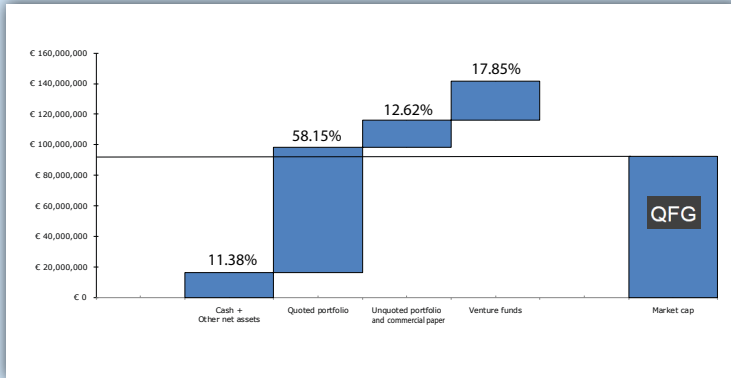
## Investments in Venture Funds

	Change since 31/12/2019	Currency	Last Valuation Date	Valuation in €	in % of Net Asset Value
<b>CAPRICORN PARTNERS</b>					
CAPRICORN CLEANTECH FUND		€	30/09/2020	1,774,184	1.25%
CAPRICORN DIGITAL GROWTH FUND		€	30/09/2020	3,365,897	2.38%
CAPRICORN HEALTH-TECH FUND	-544,927	€	30/09/2020	7,596,518	5.37%
CAPRICORN ICT ARKIV	-3,082,000	€	30/09/2020	5,431,083	3.84%
CAPRICORN SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY FUND	2,000,000	€	30/09/2020	5,996,449	4.24%
<b>THIRD PARTY FUNDS</b>					
CARLYLE EUROPE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS II		€	30/06/2020	74,476	0.05%
LIFE SCIENCES PARTNERS III	-103,162	€	30/06/2020	368,000	0.26%
LIFE SCIENCES PARTNERS IV	-1,005,954	€	30/06/2020	649,000	0.46%
				<b>25,255,606</b>	<b>17.85%</b>
<b>Total Financial Assets - Shares</b>		€		<b>122,576,528</b>	<b>86.64%</b>
<b>Change in valuation in unquoted companies</b>		€		<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total Financial Assets - Shares after depreciation</b>		€		<b>122,576,528</b>	<b>86.64%</b>

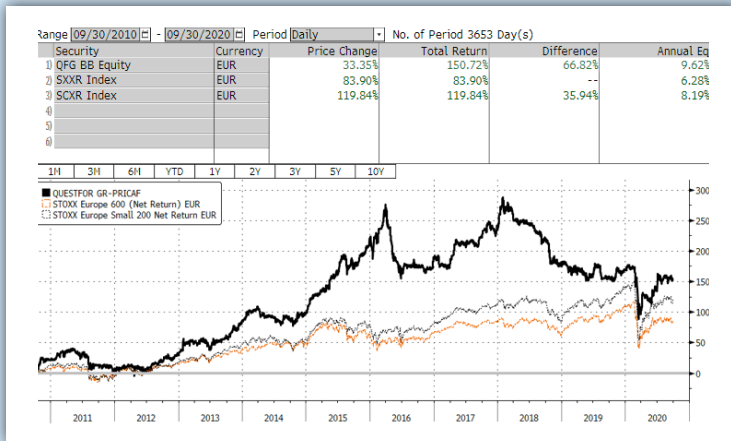
## Amounts receivables companies

Company	Face value in currency	Change since 31/12/2019	Currency	Last Valuation Date	Valuation in €	in % of Net Asset Value
<b>Loan notes</b>						
SCALED ACCESS	100,000	100,000	€		100,000	0.07%
					<b>100,000</b>	<b>0.07%</b>
<b>Commercial paper</b>						
PURATOS	1,500,000		€		1,499,989	1.06%
PURATOS	1,200,000		€		1,199,987	0.85%
					<b>2,699,976</b>	<b>1.91%</b>
<b>Total Financial Assets - Amounts receivable</b>			€		<b>2,799,976</b>	<b>1.98%</b>
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>			€		<b>125,376,504</b>	<b>88.62%</b>
<b>Cash</b>			€		<b>12,322,217</b>	<b>8.71%</b>
<b>Other Net Assets</b>			€		<b>3,776,042</b>	<b>2.67%</b>
<b>Quest for Growth - Ordinary shares</b>			€		<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>			€		<b>141,474,764</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

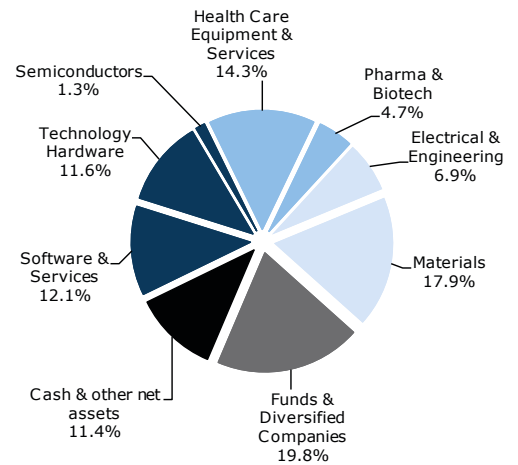
**PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION AND MARKET CAPITALISATION AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**



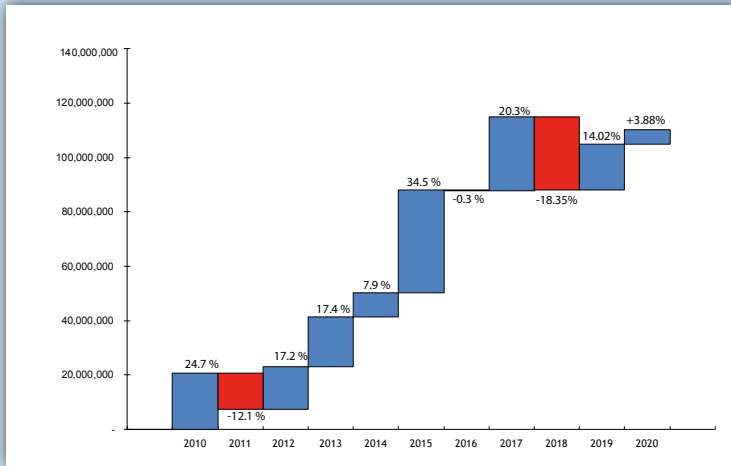
**TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS RETURN (SINCE 30/09/2010)**



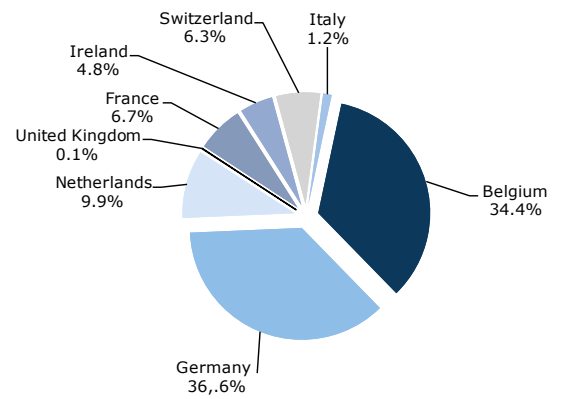
**PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR**



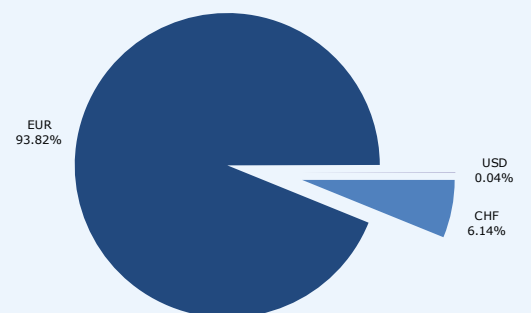
**QUEST FOR GROWTH RESULTS FROM 1 JANUARY 2010 UNTIL 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**



**PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY**

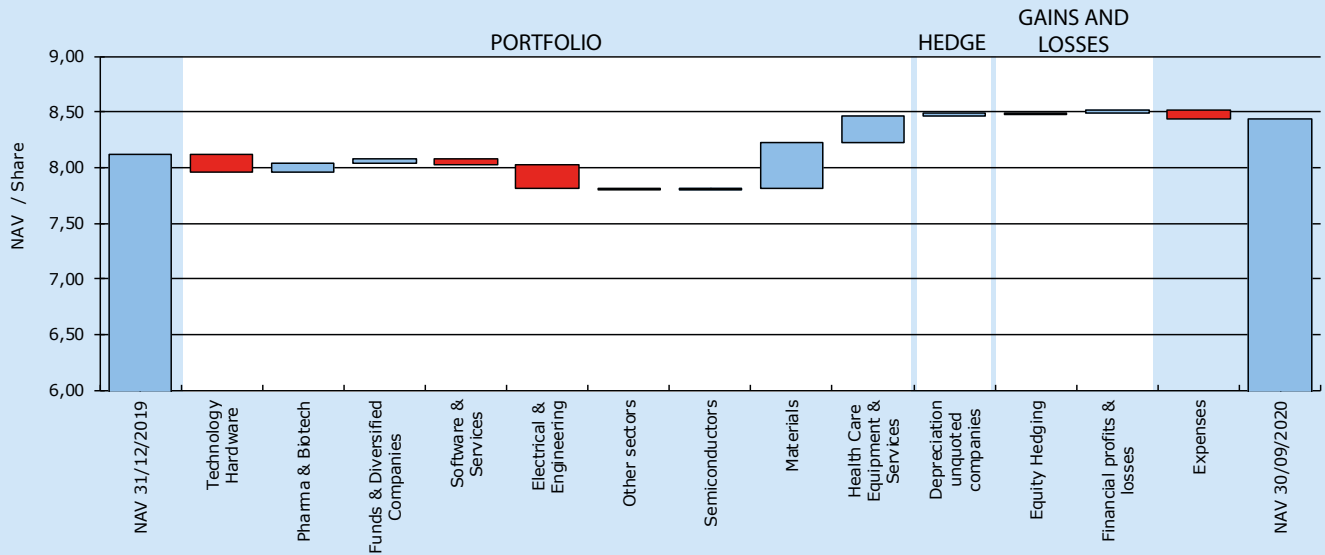


**PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION BY CURRENCY**

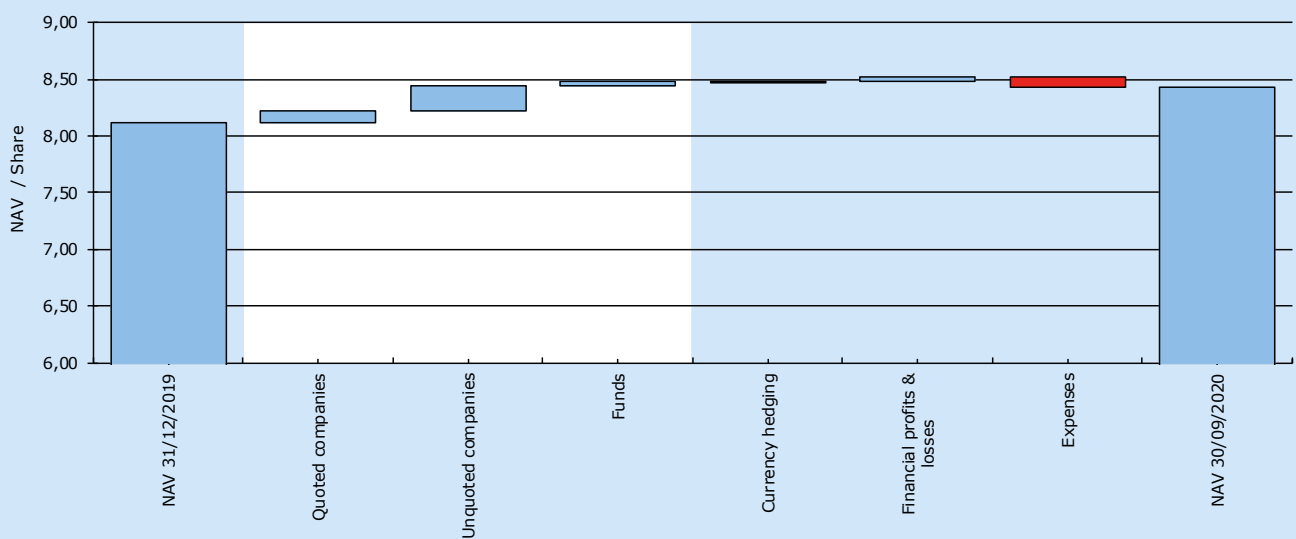


# ADDED VALUE PER SHARE (JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2020)

## ADDED VALUE PER SECTOR PER SHARE



## ADDED VALUE PER SEGMENT PER SHARE



## PROFILE

QUEST FOR GROWTH, is a privak/pricaf, a public alternative investment fund (AIF) with fixed capital under Belgian law, managed by Capricorn Partners NV. The diversified portfolio of Quest for Growth is for the most part invested in growth companies listed on European stock exchanges, in European unquoted companies and in venture capital funds. Quest for Growth focuses on innovative companies in areas such as digital technologies (ICT), technologies for the healthcare sector (Health-tech) and clean technology (Cleantech). Quest for Growth has been listed on Euronext Brussels since 23 September 1998.

# CONDENSED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

In EUR

	30 September 2020	31 December 2019
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	12,322,217	8,878,626
Short term debt securities	2,699,976	5,199,955
Trade and other receivables	214,361	340,457
Dividends receivable	320,077	266,543
Financial assets		
Financial assets at FVTPL – equity securities	122,576,529	121,003,377
Financial assets at FVTPL – debt securities	100,000	530,741
Other current assets	3,334,397	7,240
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>141,567,556</b>	<b>136,226,940</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>		
Share capital	145,339,326	145,339,326
Accumulated result	-9,154,588	-25,895,613
<b>Net result for the period</b>	<b>5,290,025</b>	<b>16,741,026</b>
<b>Total equity attributable to shareholders</b>	<b>141,474,763</b>	<b>136,184,739</b>
Balances due to brokers and other payables	50,549	0
Current tax payable	424	382
Other liabilities	41,819	41,819
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>92,793</b>	<b>42,201</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>	<b>141,567,556</b>	<b>136,226,940</b>



# CONDENSED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

In EUR

	30 September 2020	31 September 2019
Net realised gains / (losses) on financial assets	-1,035,923	-2,253,928
Net unrealised gains / (losses) on financial assets	7,191,670	10,182,096
Dividends income	701,217	1,694,168
Interest income	-4,945	2,317
Net realised foreign exchange gains / (losses)	-31,166	-30
Net unrealised foreign exchange gains / (losses)	24,991	0
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>6,845,844</b>	<b>9,624,623</b>
Other operating income	26,935	0
Other operating loss	-54,356	0
<b>Total operating revenues</b>	<b>6,818,423</b>	<b>9,624,623</b>
Fee Management Company	-1,096,440	-1,095,431
Custodian fees	-28,411	-19,615
Director's fees	-103,575	-81,970
Levy on investment funds	-125,971	-110,485
Other operating expenses	-72,983	-186,065
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>-1,427,380</b>	<b>-1,493,566</b>
<b>Profit from operating activities</b>	<b>5,391,043</b>	<b>8,131,057</b>
Net finance expense	-2,368	-7,212
<b>Profit / (Loss) before income taxes</b>	<b>5,388,675</b>	<b>8,123,845</b>
Withholding tax expenses	-98,608	-270,712
Other incomes taxes	-42	-221
<b>Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>	<b>5,290,025</b>	<b>7,852,912</b>
<b>Earnings per share (EPS)</b>		
Basic & diluted average number of shares outstanding	16,774,226	16,774,226
Basis & diluted EPS for ordinary shares	+0.32	0.47
Basic & diluted EPS for A and B shares	+0.32	0.47



# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Board of directors	Mr Antoon De Proft, chairman and independent director Mr Michel Akkermans, director Mr René Avonts, director Mr Philippe de Vicq de Cumplich, director and executive officer Mr Bart Fransis, director Dr Jos B. Peeters, director Ms Liesbet Peeters, director Prof. Regine Slagmulder, independent director Mr Paul Van Dun, independent director Ms Lieve Verplancke, independent director
Audit committee	Prof. Regine Slagmulder, chairman Mr René Avonts Mr Paul Van Dun Ms Lieve Verplancke
Executive officers	Mr Philippe de Vicq de Cumplich, director Mr Yves Vaneerdewegh, member of the Executive Committee of Capricorn Partners
Management company	Capricorn Partners NV, Lei 19 box 1, B-3000 Leuven
Statutory auditor	PwC Bedrijfsrevisoren LTD, represented by Mr Gregory Joos, Woluwedal 18, 1932 Sint-Stevens-Woluwe
Depository bank	BELFIUS BANK BELGIË, Pachecolaan 44, B-1000 Brussels
Incorporation	9 June 199
Official listing	23 September 1998 on Euronext Brussels
Security number	ISIN: BE0003730448
Stock price	Bloomberg: QFG BB Equity Reuters: QUFG.BR Telekurs: 950524
Company reports	published quarterly, the next quarterly report will be published in March 2021
Estimated net asset value	published every first Thursday of the month on the website <a href="http://www.questforgrowth.com">www.questforgrowth.com</a>

Closed-end private equity funds, submitted to the Royal Decree of 10 July 2016 on alternative institutions for collective investment in unquoted and growth companies, are an investment instrument designed to offer individual investors a suitable framework in which to invest in unquoted and growth undertakings.

The privak is under the supervision of the Financial Services and Market Authority (FSMA) and is subject to specific investment rules and obligations as regards the distribution of divide

## Investment rules

- 25% or more of the portfolio must be invested in unquoted companies;
- 70% or more of the portfolio (qualified investments) must be invested in
  - unquoted companies;
  - quoted growth companies with a market capitalisation of less than 1.5 billion euros;
  - other alternative investment funds with an investment policy similar to that of the private equity fund.

A private equity fund may not invest more than 20% of its portfolio in a single undertaking.



## QUEST FOR GROWTH NV

privak, public alternative investment fund with fixed capital pursuant to Belgian law

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