The following is an English version of the official Japanese announcement, which has been given to the JASDAQ and the media in Tokyo, Japan.

January 30, 2017

Company: SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
(JASDAQ Standard Code: 8739)

SPARX Dominates Morningstar's Domestic Stock Fund Category "Best Fund Award", in "Fund of the Year 2016"

It is the first time that same asset management company wons "Best Fund Award" in both categories.

"Gensentoshi" has renewed the record 3 years in row in the Domestic Large-cap Fund Category. "Kachihakkutsu", has won "Fund Award" in the Domestic Mid- and Small-cap Fund Category for the first time.

Tokyo (January 30, 2017) – SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX) is honored to announce that 2 mutual funds managed by SPARX Asset Management Co., Ltd. (President and CEO: Shuhei Abe), a subsidiary of the Company, have won the Best Fund Award in the Domestic Large-cap Stock Fund Division and Mid- and Small-cap Stock Fund Division, of the Morningstar Award "Fund of the Year 2016" selected by Morningstar Japan K.K. It is first time that same asset management company dominates both domestic stock fund categories. Furthermore, SPARX Shin Kokusai Yuryo Japanese Equity Fund ("Gensentoshi"), has renewed the record 3 years in row in the Domestic Large-cap Stock Fund Division.

"Gensentoshi" invests mainly in Japanese companies with high-level technology and brand power that are expected to be active on a global scale in the future, based on the thorough bottom-up research that has been SPARX's mainstay and forte since its foundation. In addition, the Fund makes highly selective investments in approximately 20 stocks without setting any benchmarks and, in principle, without trading in shares in short intervals and intends to hold them for a long period.

SPARX premium Japanese Micro-cap Equity Fund ("Kachihakkutsu"), has won "Fund Award" in the Domestic Mid- and Small-cap Fund Category for the first time. "Kachihakkutsu" invests mainly in Japanese micro-cap stock companies, which represent the lower 2 percent of Japan's equity market in terms of market cap, based on the intensive bottom-up research.

It is a great honor to have won this award as it is not only for our specific funds or investment strategy but also has proven our comprehensive excellence as a Japanese investment manager after we had been dedicated to our investment philosophy since incorporation of the company.

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Encouraged further by this prize, all members at the SPARX Group remain dedicated to improve our investment capabilities, product offerings and client service activities. We will continue to brand SPARX as a representative of Japanese and Asian Equity asset managers, aggressively.

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Reference:



Best Fund of the Year 2016
Domestic Large-cap Stock Fund Division
(total: 617 funds)

SPARX Shin Kokusai Yuryo Japanese Equity Fund ("Gensentoshi"("Highly Selective Investment"))



Best Fund of the Year 2016
Domestic Mid- and Small-cap Stock Fund Division
(total: 250 funds)

SPARX premium Japanese Micro-cap Equity Fund ("Kachihakkutsu"),

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References to any specific securities do not constitute an offer to buy or sell securities. Those awarded funds based upon the past performance cannot guarantee their future performance. Data or statements are obtained from sources Morningstar Japan K.K believed to be reliable but are not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness.

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Taking every factor into consideration, Morningstar Japan K.K. has selected funds for Morningstar Award “Fund of the Year 2016” in each divisions from open-end mutual fund based upon its unique quantitative and qualitative analysis. Awarded funds in the Domestic Large-cap Stock Fund Division have been selected from 617 funds at the end of December 2016. Awarded funds in the Domestic Mid- and Small-cap Stock Fund Division have been selected from 250 funds at the end of December 2016.

No further entry