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For Immediate Release

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

Mirai Creation Fund II to invest in aiQ Index, a new investment information service that leverages AI and Big Data

— supporting investment decisions through the use of alternative data —

TOKYO—May 28, 2019—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE1: 8739) today announced that its Mirai Creation Fund II—established in July 2018—has invested in aiQ Index (aiQ), a firm that provides investment decision support through AI-based analysis of alternative data.

aiQ intends to use this round of fundraising to expand customer support and develop its investment data services.

■ Portfolio Company Outline

Researchers from Matsuo Laboratory, University of Tokyo, and analysts from Nomura Holdings founded aiQ in June 2018. aiQ CEO Mr Yamamoto was formerly a Quantitative Analyst that used AI technology. He jointly developed and published with the Japanese Ministry of Economics, Trade and Industry SNS-and AI-economic sentiment index, a new AI-based economic metric for market sentiment, which is based on AI analysis of social media . Matsuo Laboratory, led by the University of Tokyo professor Yutaka Matsuo, has been cooperating and maintaining a capital partnership with aiQ, during which time aiQ actively developed a broad range of analytical techniques that primarily use Deep Learning. In December 2018, aiQ released its first investment information product aiQ Geolocation.

■ aiQ Geolocation

Partnering with NTT docomo for access to the group's mobile phone location data, aiQ has developed AI technology which analyzes the location and movement of mobile devices to divide the population into a behavioral taxonomy (e.g. residents, commuters). Driven by population behavior, financial performance forecasts for over 1500 domestic companies are available to investors.

■ Mirai Creation Fund I and Mirai Creation Fund II Summaries

The Mirai Creation Fund I began operations in November 2015 with financing amounting to roughly JPY13.5 billion from three companies: Toyota Motor Corporation, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, and SPARX, the Fund's manager. Ultimately, the Fund received contributions from 20 companies, including the above three. Seeing intelligent technologies, robotics, and technologies that promote a hydrogen economy 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 domains of electrification and new materials. As of April 30, 2019, the combined AUM for Funds Ⅰ(one) and Ⅱ(two) are ¥109.3 billion. Mirai Creation investment track record: https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/investment/

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