Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain: March 10,2019



Haitham Haji

Head of Distribution and Business Development

Jithesh Gopi

Head of proprietary Investments

## SICO ANNOUNCES NEW MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENTS

SICO BSC (c), a leading regional asset manager, broker and investment bank (licensed as a conventional wholesale bank by the Central Bank of Bahrain "CBB"), announced today the appointment of Haitham Haji and Jithesh Gopi as the newest members of its management team. The appointments are part of an ongoing effort to enhance the management team and introduce fresh perspectives as SICO moves forward with its growth plans.

Haji, SICO's new Head of Distribution and Business Development comes with more than 20 years of experience in investment, treasury, research and business development. He has previously held positions in Credit Suisse and ARCAPITA Bank in Bahrain. Before joining SICO he was the CEO of Investrade Company B.S.C.

Gopi, who will head SICO's Proprietary Investments Division, has over 24 years of experience in investment management, research and analytics. Jithesh is a CFA and has held senior positions in research, asset management and proprietary investments at Al Rajhi Capital in Riyadh.

Commenting on the new appointments, SICO Chief Executive Officer, Najla Al Shirawi, said, "We constantly seek to attract new high-caliber talent. Both Haitham and Jithesh have well-proven professional skills, high-level qualifications, and extensive industry expertise. As such, they will add depth to SICO's management team and add value to our clients and shareholders, while contributing to the business growth and strategic development of the Bank."





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Commenting on his new role as Head of Distribution and Business Development, Haji said, "I'm honored to have the opportunity to leverage my years of experience in helping SICO to grow and develop their institutional client base in Bahrain and beyond. I am confident that we can work together to continue outperforming the market in the years to come."

"I look forward to creating value for the Bank in my new capacity as Head of Proprietary Investments and building on the excellent track record that the Division has already built," said Gopi

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## About SICO

SICO is a leading regional asset manager, broker, and investment bank, with USD 1.9 bn in assets under management (AUM). Today SICO operates under a wholesale banking licence from the Central Bank of Bahrain and also oversees two wholly owned subsidiaries: an Abu Dhabi-based brokerage firm, SICO Financial Brokerage and a specialised regional custody house, SICO Fund Services Company (SFS). Headquartered in the Kingdom of Bahrain with a growing regional and international presence, SICO has a well-established track record as a trusted regional bank offering a comprehensive suite of financial solutions, including asset management, brokerage, investment banking, and market making, backed by a robust and experienced research team that provides regional insight and analysis of more than 90 percent of the region's major equities. Since inception in 1995, SICO has consistently outperformed the market and developed a solid base of institutional clients. Going forward, the bank's continued growth will be guided by its commitments to strong corporate governance and developing trusting relationships with its clients. The bank will also continue to invest in its information technology capabilities and the human capital of its 100 exceptional employees.

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