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**Brazil, China, India, Austria Lead Global Growth of CFP Professionals at Mid Year**

**DENVER, CO – 29 August 2011** – Financial Planning Standards Board Ltd. (FPSB), the professional standards-setting body for financial planners and owner of the CFP, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER and CFP logo trademarks outside the United States, announced that its member organizations in Brazil, China, India and Austria led overall growth in the number of CFP professionals in the first two quarters of 2011. The highest gains came from Instituto Brasileiro de Certificação de Profissionais Financeiros (IBCPF), a member of FPSB since 2002, where the number of CFP professionals increased 24.5 percent since 31 December 2010. FPSB China reported a gain of 18.4 percent for the same period, while FPSB India reported an increase of 10.8 percent, and Österreichischer Verband Financial Planners (OVFP) reported growth of 10.5 percent. The global number of CFP professionals as of 30 June 2011 stood at 137,966, up from 133,756 at the end of 2010.

IBCPF President Ulf Mannhardt, CFP, attributed the popularity of CFP certification in Brazil to increased purchase power and improved savings capacity generating more competition within the wealth management and private banking sectors. "Private bankers and independent advisers are using CFP certification as a way to differentiate themselves as professionals," said Mannhardt. "The growing awareness of financial planning in Brazil has led to steady growth in the number of advisers entering the CFP certification program."

While rapidly developing markets have driven growth in the global number of CFP professionals for more than a year, FPSB Members in established markets are also experiencing growth. In Austria, where Euro Zone pressures have contributed to turbulence in the country's financial markets, financial planning professionals are also seeking to distinguish themselves with the internationally recognized CFP credential. "CFP certification is recognized in the Austrian

market as the highest-quality credential for those in the financial services industry,” said Professor Otto Lucius, CFP, Chair of the Board of OVFP, which celebrates its tenth anniversary next month.

“CFP certification is the only globally recognized mark of excellence in financial planning,” said Corinna Dieters, chairperson of the FPSB Board of Directors. “Consumers around the world trust CFP professionals, and their “client-first” commitment, to help them manage their financial affairs to meet their life goals. FPSB applauds those who have chosen to take their careers to the next level by meeting the rigorous education, experience, ethics and exam requirements of CFP certification.”

### **About FPSB**

FPSB manages, develops and operates certification, education and related programs for financial planning organizations to benefit the global community by establishing, upholding and promoting worldwide professional standards in financial planning. FPSB demonstrates its commitment to excellence with the marks of professional distinction – CFP, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER and CFP Logo Mark. FPSB has a nonprofit member organization in the following 24 territories: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States. For more, visit [fpsb.org](http://fpsb.org). Follow FPSB at [twitter.com/fpsb](https://twitter.com/fpsb) or [facebook.com/fpsb1](https://facebook.com/fpsb1).

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