July 19, 2017

BARINGS

Barings Participation Investors Declares Quarterly Dividend of $0.27 per Share

CHARLOTTE, N.C., July 19, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Barings Participation Investors (the "Trust") Board of Trustees met today. The Trust's Trustees declared a quarterly dividend of 27 cents per share payable on August 11, 2017 to shareholders of record on August 1, 2017. The Trust paid a dividend of 27 cents per share in the preceding quarter.

The Trust's Trustees determined that the Trust's net asset value as of June 30, 2017 was $145,538,123 or $13.96 per share based on 10,422,475 shares outstanding. As of June 30, 2016, the Trust's net assets were $139,379,949 or $13.46 per share based on 10,355,987 shares outstanding. As of March 31, 2017, the Trust's net assets were $141,119,693 or $13.56 per share based on 10,404,497 shares outstanding.

The Trust's net investment income for the quarter ended June 30, 2017 was $2,993,697 or $0.29 per share, of which approximately $247,629 or $0.02 per share represented income due to nonrecurring items. Net investment income for the quarter ended June 30, 2016 was $2,535,594 or $0.24 per share. For the previous quarter ended March 31, 2017, net investment income was $2,977,417 or $0.29 per share, of which approximately $405,470 or $0.04 per share represented income due to nonrecurring items. Net investment income for the six months ended June 30, 2017 was $5,971,114 or $0.57 per share, compared with $4,788,630 or $0.46 per share for the comparable period in 2016.

During the quarter ended June 30, 2017, net capital gains of $954,889 or $0.09 per share were realized by the Trust (compared to gains of $560,492 or $0.05 per share for the quarter ended June 30, 2016), bringing 2017 year-to-date net realized capital gains to $1,287,961 or $0.12 per share. During the previous quarter ended March 31, 2017, net capital gains of $333,072 or $0.03 per share were realized by the Trust.

The market price of Barings Participation Investors as of June 30, 2017 was $13.95, which equates to a 0.07% discount to the June 30, 2017 NAV per share. The Trust's average quarter-end premium for the 3, 5 and 10-year periods was 0.86%, 6.59% and 6.90%, respectively.

Barings Participation Investors is a closed-end management investment company advised by Barings LLC. Its shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol ("MPV").

Per share amounts are rounded to the nearest cent.

Cautionary Notice: Certain statements contained in this press release may be "forward looking" statements. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date in which they are made and which reflect management's current estimates, projections, expectations or beliefs, and which are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially. These statements are subject to change at any time based upon economic, market or other conditions and may *not be relied upon as investment advice or an indication of the fund's trading intent. References to specific securities are not recommendations of such securities, and may not be representative of the fund's current or future investments. We undertake no obligation to publicly update forward looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.*

About Barings LLC
Barings is a $288+ billion* global financial services firm dedicated to meeting the evolving investment and capital needs of our clients. We build lasting partnerships that leverage our distinctive expertise across traditional and alternative asset classes to deliver innovative solutions and exceptional service. A member of the MassMutual Financial Group, Barings maintains a strong global presence with over 600 investment professionals and offices in 16 countries. Learn more at www.barings.com.

*As of June 30, 2017

17/485

Brian Whelan, Head of Corporate Communications, 980.417.7700, brian.whelan@barings.com

BARINGS

Source: Barings