CUATRECASAS ADVISES ON THE LAUNCH OF A NEW 200M PRIVATE EQUITY FUND 'NZYME'

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Cuatrecasas has advised venture capital firm Kibo Ventures on the launch of 'Nzyme', a new private equity fund set up to invest up to 200 million euros in small and medium-sized spanish companies.

The Cuatrecasas team involved in the process was led by Fund Formation partner **Jorge Canta**, who was supported by fund formation lawyers **Ana Serrano** and **Juan Manuel Navajas**.

The fund has been officially registered with the CNMV. It will focus its activity on investing in SMEs with outstanding development potential in which the implementation of new technologies may represent a turning point in boosting their productivity and growth. In this way, they will have the opportunity to consolidate and expand internationally with the support of the fund's advisors, who will also be responsible for identifying possible areas in which to implement ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) criteria to improve their business in the long term and positively influence their impact on society.

The fund will be joined by: Fernando Díaz Solís, with more than 20 years of experience in private equity; Vicente Vázquez Bouza and José Manuel Gasalla, both partners at Oliver Wyman; and Kibo Ventures partner Juan López Santamaría, with more than 15 years of experience in investment and technology. They will be supported by the founders of Kibo Ventures, Aquilino Peña and Javier Torremocha, and Pablo Campos, President of Oliver Wyman in Spain and Portugal.

Commenting on the closing of the deal, Aquilino Peña said: "We are proud to launch 'Nzyme' and to have Oliver Wyman as a strategic partner in this initiative, as they will allow us to select the best opportunities in the market and identify levers to maximise the value we can bring to our investors and the companies in which we invest, as well as to define actionable and measurable objectives to make them more sustainable".

Pablo Campos said: "Oliver Wyman is committed to supporting similar funds as part of a global initiative with an initial focus on major European markets. The fund management team is broadly complementary and, supported by our two large organisations, will be able to transform traditional SMEs into international companies with more efficient business models through technology. In addition, this initiative will help attract international investment to Spain.