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**John Bates, former Head of Credit Research Africa at Renaissance Capital,
joins Silk Invest Ltd as Head of Fixed income**

Silk Invest Ltd, a specialist asset management firm regulated by the FSA, has hired John Bates to spearhead its move into Frontier Fixed Income.

John Bates, formerly Head of Credit Research Africa at Renaissance Capital has extensive experience in fixed income markets. Prior to Renaissance he was a senior Emerging Market Credit Analyst at ABN Amro in London and West LB. John has a 'BA Hons' from University College London.

Daniel Broby, Chief Investment Officer says he is "delighted John is coming on board, having seen the quality of his work whilst we were together at Renaissance. He is truly one of the few people who not only know the universe inside out but he is also of the few able to capitalise on that knowledge to obtain equity like returns in the frontier fixed income space."

Zin Bekkali, CEO of Silk Invest, comments that "we will offer a liquid Frontier Market Fixed Income product, hopefully in the next six months. Although largely focused on Sovereigns, there will be a corporate element that will represent up to 20% of the portfolio."

Dr Heinz Hockmann, the Chairman of Silk Invest, notes that "John is yet another high level hire that is in line with our policy of recruiting the best skill-set in African and Arab markets."

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For additional information on Silk Invest Ltd, contact Chief executive Officer Zin Bekkali (zin.bekkali@silkinvest.com) or visit www.silkinvest.com.