PRESS RELEASE

NEXTALIA AND PONTE TER (VEHICLE OF THE COSTA FAMILY LED BY GIUSEPPE COSTA, KNIGHT OF LABOUR) ANNOUNCE A PARTNERSHIP TO CONSOLIDATE THE LEADERSHIP OF COSTA EDUTAINMENT, THE LEADING ITALIAN OPERATOR IN THE MANAGEMENT OF AQUARIUMS, PARKS AND EXPERIENCE MUSEUMS

THE TRANSACTION CONFIRMS NEXTALIA'S STRATEGY OF SUPPORTING HIGH-POTENTIAL COMPANIES ALONGSIDE OUTSTANDING ENTREPRENEURS

Milan, 27th May 2026 - Nextalia Investment Management ("**Nextalia**"), on behalf of the Nextalia Private Equity fund ("**NPE**"), and Costa Edutainment S.p.A. ("**Costa**" or the "**Group**"), a leading Italian company in the management of large public and private sites and facilities dedicated to recreational, cultural, educational and scientific research activities, announce the completion of a partnership aimed at supporting Costa's growth and playing a leading role in the consolidation of the sector.

Founded in 1997 to manage the Genoa Aquarium, Costa Edutainment is today the leading operator in the edutainment market in Italy, with 12 facilities under management, including 3 aquariums, 3 water parks, 6 theme parks, experience museums and villages, as well as a proprietary tour operator. With Group revenues of approximately Euro 78 million and EBITDA of approximately Euro 25 million in 2025, and a consistent investment plan pursued over the years, the facilities managed by the Group welcomed approximately 3 million visitors during the year, confirming the Group's central role in the cultural and edutainment sector.

Led by Chairman Giuseppe Costa, Knight of Labour, one of the founders of Costa Edutainment, the Group stands out for its unique positioning, combining the management of public and private recreational facilities with a strong cultural and scientific mission, focused on raising public awareness of biodiversity protection, ecosystem conservation, knowledge of marine environments and the enhancement of the heritage of the territories in which the Group operates, for the benefit of all stakeholders and with a strong awareness of corporate social responsibility.

Nextalia intends to support Costa, Knight of Labour, and the Group in pursuing ambitious growth plans, both organically and through targeted acquisitions, with the objective of further strengthening the Group's distinctive positioning as a leading platform for entertainment and the management of educational facilities in Italy.

The transaction provides for the acquisition of Costa through a vehicle indirectly controlled by Nextalia, on behalf of the Nextalia Private Equity fund, and Ponte Ter, which will retain a 30% stake in the new shareholding structure, ensuring continuity of vision and strategic direction for the Group.

In the same context, Costa, Knight of Labour, will be appointed Executive Chairman of Costa, with responsibilities including strategic transactions, institutional relations and Corporate Social Responsibility, with the aim of further strengthening the Group's relationship with the territories in which it operates.

At closing, Cristian Biasoni, highly experienced professional in leading complex industrial companies in the retail and F&B sectors, will also be appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Group, and, in coordination with

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Costa, Knight of Labour, will work to implement the value creation initiatives identified in the Group's Business Plan.

Francesco Canzonieri, Chief Executive Officer of Nextalia, commented: "Costa Edutainment is one of Italy's outstanding companies, capable of combining entertainment, education, scientific dissemination and environmental protection with solid market leadership and significant growth potential to be further enhanced. We are proud to partner with Giuseppe Costa, Knight of Labour, and the management team in the development of a truly unique platform."

Valentina Pippolo, Chief Investment Officer Equity of Nextalia, stated: "The partnership with Costa Edutainment is based on a clear industrial project: accelerating the Group's growth and strengthening its role as a national champion in the sector. In continuity with the vision of Giuseppe Costa, Knight of Labour, we will support value creation through the consolidation of the platform and a targeted acquisition plan, while preserving the Group's distinctive identity and educational vocation."

Giuseppe Costa, Chairman of Costa Edutainment and Knight of Labour, commented: "Costa Edutainment was founded on the belief that entertainment and social and environmental responsibility could coexist and create development for our territories. I am pleased to lead the Group towards new milestones, confident that the partners joining us share not only our growth objectives, but also the values that have made the Group what it is today, consolidating and further strengthening the company's commitment in the territories in which it already operates and in others that will become part of its growth journey."

Nextalia was assisted by PedersoliGattai as legal advisor, Alvarez & Marsal for financial due diligence, Bain & Co. for business due diligence and Deloitte for tax due diligence. Legance advised on the structuring aspects of the transaction. Financing for the transaction was arranged by the teams of Latham and Essentia Advisory. Ethica Group and Banca Akros – Oaklins Italy acted as M&A Advisors.

The Group's shareholders and the Group were assisted by Pirola Corporate Finance as M&A Advisor, Studio Carbone D'Angelo Portale Purpura for legal matters, Pongiglione & Associati for tax matters and with the support of Serena Del Lungo.

***Nextalia** is an investment platform promoted by Francesco Canzonieri together with leading Italian institutional investors (Intesa Sanpaolo, Unipol Assicurazioni, Aurelia, Finprog Italia, Fondazione ENPAM, H14, Istituto Atesino di Sviluppo, Massimo Moratti S.a.p.a, Confcommercio, Confindustria, Bonifiche Ferraresi and Micheli Associati).*
With the aim of investing in Italian excellence to accelerate sustainable growth, Nextalia manages over two billion euros of assets and positions itself as the leading platform in Italy for private market investments. Nextalia manages seven funds, "Nextalia Private Equity", "Nextalia Credit Opportunities", "Nextalia Ventures", "Nextalia Capitale Rilancio", "Nextalia Flexible Capital", "Nextalia Credit Solutions" and "Fondo Leonardo", and has recently launched the fundraising phase for "Nextalia Private Equity II".

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