**PRESS RELEASE**

**Brussels, 8 February 2018**

**New and familiar faces at acumen public affairs**

Acumen is pleased to announce new team hires aimed at consolidating the growing business of the company in various policy areas.

With 10 years of Public Affairs experience on her side **Mélanie Yammine** joins as Account Manager to help grow the client portfolios in healthcare and environment. Asked about her recent arrival she said: “I am very happy I joined the Acumen team because I highly value their reputation and achievements at Brussels but also global level”.

Mélanie built her expertise working for leading trade associations CEFIC and EFPIA. During her career she has developed a knowledge in healthcare, environment, climate change, food and global health policies and has grown a strong interest in stakeholders’ relations and sustainability challenges. She has participated in many different advocacy campaigns for leading European sectors and has grown a solid know-how in developing public affairs strategies. She has also run communication projects and has become an expert in social media in recent years.

**Misachi Ogawa** continues at acumen public affairs as a Consultant after his successful traineeship with the company. Misa will run a grassroot global campaign to raise awareness about falsified medicines: [www.fightthefakes.org](http://www.fightthefakes.org). He is a key member on the team that works with the IFPMA across a wide range of topics including AMR, vaccines. Coming from Germany he recently completed his masters at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

**Julia Burkhalter** returns to Acumen Public Affairs as Consultant after a completing a trainseeship last summer.  A Swiss national, she is currently writing her Master thesis to complete her studies at Sciences Po Paris. Julia gained first work experience in the Brussels bubble when working for the Swiss Business Federation and worked in public affairs consulting back in Switzerland. Julia promises added value to Acumen for clients such as Mitsubishi, Mastercard and Syngenta.

*About Acumen*

Acumen public affairs was launched in September 2010 and its growing client portfolio includes Cargill Europe, DuPont, European Broadcasting Union (EBU),  the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA), LEO Pharma, MasterCard, Merial/Boehringer Ingelheim, Mitsubishi, Merck Sharpe & Dohme (MSD), Novartis, Public Libraries 2020, Syngenta, and Uber.