

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Announces
Request from Sumitomo Mitsui Construction to Subscribe Preferred Shares

TOKYO, January 29, 2004: Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (“SMBC”) announced today that it has received a request from Sumitomo Mitsui Construction Co., Ltd., subject to the approval of the issuance of preferred shares at Sumitomo Mitsui Construction’s shareholders’ meeting, to subscribe preferred shares in the amount of JPY 57.5 billion to fortify its capital.

SMBC, as a main bank, is considering accepting the offer to help Sumitomo Mitsui Construction strengthen its financial base.