

【NEWS RELEASE】

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Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. Endorses “Principles for Responsible Banking”

TOKYO, February 18, 2019 --- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (President and Group CEO: Takeshi Kunibe; our corporate group will hereinafter be referred to as “SMBC Group”) announces that it has endorsed the Principles for Responsible Banking, proposed by the UNEP FI (United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative), ahead of its launch in September 2019 when the Principles for Responsible Banking are planned to take effect.

The world is now facing various environmental issues such as climate change caused by global warming, and social issues such as human rights violations, on a global scale. Given this situation, adoption of SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), and enactment of the Paris Agreement (international framework agreement to combat global warming) and implementing ESG (E: Environmental; S: Social; and G: Governance) initiatives to ensure sustainable social development, as well as pursuing ongoing dialogue with stakeholders, are essential for companies in order to enhance corporate value.

The Principles for Responsible Banking were established with the aim of encouraging banks to pursue corporate activities that are consistent with social objectives, such as the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, in order to realize a sustainable society.

Under the strong commitment of top management, SMBC Group is currently accelerating its sustainability management by bolstering traditional CSR activities, including revision of its organizational structure, which was implemented in October 2018.

We support the Principles for Responsible Banking, as they are fully compatible with the corporate direction of SMBC Group.

SMBC Group aims to “be a global financial group that leads growth in Japan and Asia by earning the highest trust of our customers”. As we fulfill this role, we will work for the sustained development of society as a whole and to raise our own corporate value by promoting ESG and SDGs-related initiatives.

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group
Director President and Group CEO, Takeshi Kunibe