

【NEWS RELEASE】

March 08, 2021

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Signing of an Agreement with Sustainalytics Japan
Towards the Formulation of Green Deposit Eligibility Guidelines

TOKYO, March 08, 2021-- Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (“SMBC”, President and CEO: Makoto Takashima) announced today that it has signed an agreement with Sustainalytics Japan Co. Ltd., the Japanese subsidiary of Sustainalytics (“Sustainalytics”, CEO : Michael Jantzi) (※1) , a leading ESG research, ratings and data firm, towards the formulation of green deposit eligibility guidelines to support its customer’s ESG (※2) /SDGs (※3) related activities.

Green deposits are product that provide customers with investment opportunities in the ESG sector by allocating deposits placed by customers to finance the environmental segment of ESGs, particularly in renewable energy.

In the future, after formulating green deposit eligibility guidelines with Sustainalytics, SMBC will use the deposits placed by customers to finance the environmental sector and have Sustainalytics evaluate the operational status on an annual basis, ensuring transparency. In addition to the conventional funding aspect of financial support, SMBC aims to contribute to the realization of sustainability in terms of its customer’s operations and support environmentally sustainable economic growth.

As announced on April 13, 2020, SMBC Group including SMBC has established “SMBC Group GREEN × GLOBE 2030”, a ten-year plan that extends to 2030 based on the Sustainability Statement. Particularly, in order to take actions in solving environmental issues, a target of JPY 10 trillion has been set for Green Finance to be achieved by the end of FY2029.

Based on the Sustainability Statement, SMBC will engage and act together with customers and other stakeholders to contribute to the global transformation into a better society.

(※1) Sustainalytics

Sustainalytics is an independent research and rating agency specializing in Responsible / ESG investment with a global research network. Headquartered in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Sustainalytics provide ESG-related data to more than 700 asset owners and asset managers.

(※2) ESG

ESG stands for Environmental, Social, and Governance and indicates three key criteria for consideration to conduct business activities in a sustainable and socially responsible manner. ESG is an area of growing interest, providing standards for a company's operations that impact the environment, reflect its relationships and govern how the company manages itself:

(※3) SDGs

SDGs is an abbreviation for Sustainable Development Goals. 17 goals were adopted by 193 UN member states at the UN General Assembly in September 2015 as part of Agenda 2030; a global action plan through the year 2030. The 17 goals and 169 targets are for all countries and regions, not only emerging but also developed ones, to realize by the year 2030 a world in which no one is left behind with regards to issues such as poverty, equality, education, and the environment.