【NEWS RELEASE】

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Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.

SMBC Group Receives "Gold" Rating in the PRIDE Index 2026 for Eighth Consecutive Year

TOKYO, November 25, 2026 --- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. ("SMFG") and eight SMBC Group companies (*1) have received the Gold rating, the highest rating in the PRIDE Index 2026, an evaluation framework developed by work with Pride to assess LGBTQ inclusion in the workplace. This marks the eighth consecutive year since 2019 that the nine companies have jointly received the Gold rating as SMBC Group.

SMBC Group, home to approximately 130,000 professionals, believes that its people are the source of its competitiveness and the driving force behind creating new value. Guided by this belief, we strive to build a workplace where every individual thoughtfully considers how they can contribute to our customers and society and collaborates with others with passion.

As part of these efforts, we have established external consultation services to provide support on various workplace matters related to gender identity and sexual orientation. We also collaborate with other financial groups on cross-organizational events and initiatives to advance LGBTQ inclusion and foster a society and corporate culture where every individual is equally valued. In addition, SMBC Group companies have expanded the application of employee benefit programs to same-sex partners.

Looking ahead, SMBC Group will continue to foster workplaces where diverse professionals can continue to take on challenges and find fulfillment in their work, while building strong teams, thereby contributing to sustainable growth and creating value for society.

[Recent efforts]

- In July 2026, SMBC Group launched the "Ally 1000 Project," an initiative aimed at creating a workplace where LGBTQ employees can be themselves and thrive, regardless of whether they choose to come out. Built around three pillars, "Learn," "Engage in Dialogue," and "Show Support," the project encourages employees to organize learning sessions, share insights and perspectives with one another, and visibly demonstrate their understanding and support through original Ally stickers. In approximately four months since its launch, more than 2,500 employees have become Ally 1000 members, expanding the circle of Allies through small, everyday actions.

- Since 2021, SMBC Group has worked with other financial groups to hold events aimed at promoting

LGBTQ inclusion and allyship. In November 2026, the groups held an event under the theme “Ally Starts with Me,” providing an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of LGBTQ inclusion and allyship, reflect on what each person can do in their own way, and put those reflections into practice in their daily lives.

(*1) Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation; SMBC Trust Bank Ltd.; Sumitomo Mitsui Finance & Leasing Company, Limited; SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.; Sumitomo Mitsui Card Company, Limited.; SMBC Consumer Finance Co., Ltd.; The Japan Research Institute, Limited; and Sumitomo Mitsui DS Asset Management Company, Limited

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