

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Crédit Agricole CIB Japan gathers leading international and Japanese market players to discuss the important developments in Sustainable Finance**

**Tokyo, Japan – 7 June 2021** – Crédit Agricole CIB is committed to sustainable financing, one of the pillars of its current Medium-Term Plan. To encourage a collaborative dialogue on the latest trends and developments in the Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) arena, Crédit Agricole CIB gathered leading market players in this field during its “Japan Sustainable Day” online conference. This was the opportunity to discuss hot topics such as the recent European Union (EU) taxonomy, as well as climate transition finance and sustainability-linked bonds which are gaining momentum in the global sustainable finance market.

**Antoine Rose, of Crédit Agricole CIB’s Sustainable Banking team**, explained that “the publication of the EU taxonomy in June 2020 is a game changer, as it fosters comparability and transparency for sustainable investment activities, both for companies and market participants. The disclosure regulation provides additional safeguards against green washing, and supports capital flows into sustainable investments.”

In addition to this, sustainable finance will be an integral component of the funding strategy of the EU’s post-pandemic recovery fund “NextGenerationEU”. The objective of the EU is to fund in the upcoming years around 30% of NextGenerationEU, equivalent to EUR 250 billion, through green bond issuances, which will make it one of the largest green bond issuers in the world. This EU’s commitment to Sustainable Finance will further support the growth of the green bond market, and will thus help meet the strong demand from investors.

Such positive developments in the sustainable finance market are not limited to Europe. In Japan, very encouraging signs have been observed during the past two years. A growing number of corporates and financial institutions have made public their ESG policies with clearer and more ambitious objectives, encouraged by the recent announcements of the Japanese Government to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. In parallel, Japanese bond investors are increasingly focused on the SDG goals in their investment decisions.

**Tomonori Yoshida, Head of Debt Capital Markets for Japan at Crédit Agricole CIB**, added “Japan is a major player in the sustainable bond market, being the second largest issuer in Asia, relying on the strong existing base of Sovereigns, Supranationals and Agencies (SSAs), financial institutions and corporate issuers. Crédit Agricole CIB has been an active contributor and frequent issuer in the sustainable bond market, particularly in Japan, and will continue to support and advise its clients in Japan and globally to issue, arrange and distribute sustainable bonds and loans.”

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## About Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank (Crédit Agricole CIB)

Crédit Agricole CIB is the corporate and investment banking arm of Crédit Agricole Group, the 12<sup>th</sup> largest banking group worldwide in terms of tier 1 capital (The Banker, July 2020). Nearly 8,400 employees across Europe, the Americas, Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and Africa support the Bank's clients, meeting their financial needs throughout the world. Crédit Agricole CIB offers its large corporate and institutional clients a range of products and services in capital markets activities, investment banking, structured finance, commercial banking and international trade. The Bank is a pioneer in the area of climate finance, and is currently a market leader in this segment with a complete offer for all its clients.

For many years Crédit Agricole CIB has been committed to sustainable development. The Bank was the first French bank to sign the Equator Principles in 2003. It has also been a pioneer in Green Bond markets with the arrangement of public transactions from 2012 for a wide array of issuers (supranational banks, corporates, local authorities, banks) and was one of the co-drafter of Green Bond Principles and of the Social Bond Guidance. Relying on the expertise of a dedicated sustainable banking team and on the strong support of all bankers, Crédit Agricole CIB is one of the most active banks in the Green bonds market.

For more information, please visit [www.ca-cib.com](http://www.ca-cib.com)



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