Official Signing and Global Launch of the *Principles for Responsible Banking*
22 September 2019

**Date/Time:** 22 September, 14.00-15.30

**Location:** Trusteeship Council

**Attendance:**
About 300-400 high-level representatives from: banks becoming the Founding Signatories of the *Principles for Responsible Banking*, financial sector institutions, civil society, high-level UN representatives, VIPs, policy makers and international media.

**Background on the Event and the *Principles for Responsible Banking*:**

**Official Signing and Global Launch of the *Principles for Responsible Banking***

More than 40 bank CEOs from all five continents have personally committed to come to New York on 22nd and September 2019, to join United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Executive Director Inger Andersen to launch the *UN Principles for Responsible Banking*.

The Principles will open the door to leverage the power of the US$ 134.1 trillion banking industry, which is responsible for more than two-thirds of all financing globally, and 90% of financing in developing countries – making their engagement critical to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Already endorsed by **130 banks from over 45 countries** representing more than US$47 trillion in assets and with that over one third of the global banking industry, the Principles are the most significant mechanism ever created jointly between the UN and the global banking industry.

**Background**

The Principles for Responsible Banking set the criteria for responsible and sustainable banking. The 130 banks that have already committed to the Principles, and the many others that are set to follow, demonstrate the highest-level commitment from the banking industry.

Signatory banks of the Principles commit to aligning their business strategies with the SDGs. In so doing, they are required to set, publish and report on targets addressing their most significant potential positive and negative impacts on sustainable development – depending on the type of bank that they are, and the context of their business. For example, a South African bank may decide to set targets for reducing their financing for coal; an Indonesian bank may aim to scale-up financing to businesses that stimulate green growth and improve rural livelihoods; while a US bank may set a target to close the gender pay gap.

The commitment of these banks, and the high-level personal commitment of their CEOs to re-aligning the global banking industry so that it serves the needs of society merits high-level UN recognition, support and engagement.
The initiative is already referenced within the SG’s Roadmap for Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Signatory banks of the Principles will become powerful partners to help mobilize financing for UN objectives such as climate action, deforestation, biodiversity loss and nature-based solutions.

The six Principles for Responsible Banking are presented below and more information on their implementation is at www.unepfi.org/prb.

This represents only the latest successful UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) global partnership with banks, insurers. Others have included: the establishment in 2006 with Kofi Annan of the Principles for Responsible Investment, which today counts 70% of institutional investors worldwide; and the development of the 2012 Principles for Sustainable Insurance which now accounts for 25% of insurers globally.

Bank Chief Executive Officers (CEO) confirmed to attend the 22 September 2019 Official Signing and Global Launch of the Principles for Responsible Banking (as of 17. Sep.):

1. ABANCA, Francisco Botas Ratera, CEO (Spain)
2. ABN AMRO, Colin Hunt, CEO (Netherlands)
3. Access Bank, Herbert Wigwe, CEO (Nigeria)
4. Allied Irish Banks (AIB), Colin Hunt, CEO (Ireland)
5. Amalgamated Bank, Keith Mestrich, CEO (USA)
6. Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Stefania Bariatti, Chairwoman (Italy)
7. Banco Galicia, Sergio Grinenco, CEO (Spain)
8. Banco Hipotecario, Celina Padilla Meard, President (El Salvador)
9. Banco Pichincha, Santiago Bayas, CEO (Ecuador)
10. Banco Promerica Costa Rica, John Keith Sanchez, CEO (Costa Rica)
11. Bankia, Jose Sevilla Alvarez, CEO (Spain)
12. Banorte, Carlos Hank González, Chairman (Mexico)
13. Banpro Grupo Promerica Nicaragua, Juan Carlos Arguello Robelo, CEO
14. BFA, Marco Antonio Aldana Castillo, President (El Salvador)
15. BNP Paribas, Jean-Laurent Bonnafé, CEO (France)
16. Banco Bradesco, Octavio de Lazari Junior, CEO (Brazil)
17. CIB, Hussein Abaza, CEO (Egypt)
18. Coopeservidores, Oscar Hidalgo Chaves, CEO (Costa Rica)
19. Danske Bank, Karsten Dybvad, Chairman (Denmark)
20. Desjardins, Guy Cormier, CEO (Canada)
21. DNB, Olaug Svarva, Chairwoman (Norway)
22. Fana Sparebank, Lisbet Nero, CEO (Norway)
23. Gatehouse Bank, Charles Haesnape, CEO (UK)
24. Global Bank, Jorge Enrique Vallarino Miranda, CEO (Panama)
25. Golomt Bank, Norihiko Kato, CEO (Mongolia)
26. Grupo Promerica, Ramiro Ortiz, Chairman
27. IDLC, Arif Khan, CEO (Bangladesh)
28. ING, Ralph Hamers, CEO (Netherlands)
29. Itau Unibanco, Candido Bracher, CEO (Brazil)
30. KB Financial Group, Yin Hur, CEO (South Korea)
31. Keystone Bank, Adeyemi Odusanya, CEO (Nigeria)
32. LABORAL Kutxa, Txomin García Hernandez, Chairman (Spain)
33. Land Bank, Ms Koniahli Manana Gugushe, CEO (South Africa)
34. Landsbankinn, Ms Lilja Björk Einarsdóttir, CEO (Iceland)
35. National Bank of Canada, Louis Vachon, CEO (Canada)
36. Natixis, François Riahi, CEO (France)
37. Nordea, Casper von Koskull, CEO (Sweden)
38. Piraeus Bank, Christos Megalou, CEO (Greece)
39. Polaris Bank, Tokunbo Abiro, CEO (Nigeria)
40. Produbanco Grupo Promerica, Ricardo Cuesta, CEO (Ecuador)
41. SEB, John Torgeby, CEO (Sweden)
42. Sovcombank, Dmitry Gusev, CEO (Russia)
43. Standard Bank, Sola David-Borha, CEO (South Africa)
44. Triodos Bank, Peter Blom, CEO (Netherlands)
45. WEMA Bank, Ademola Adebise, CEO (Nigeria)
46. Zenith Bank, Ebenezer Onyeagwu, CEO (Nigeria)
Banks play a key role in society. As financial intermediaries, it is our purpose to help develop sustainable economies and to empower people to build better futures. Banking is based on the trust our customers and wider society put in us to serve their best interests and to act responsibly.

Our success and ability to remain profitable and relevant is intrinsically dependent on the long-term prosperity of the societies we serve. We believe that only in an inclusive society founded on human dignity, equality and the sustainable use of natural resources, can our clients and customers and, in turn, our businesses thrive.

We therefore want to take a leadership role and use our products, services and relationships to support and accelerate the fundamental changes in our economies and lifestyles necessary to achieve shared prosperity for both current and future generations.

We therefore commit to the ambitions set out in the following Principles:

1. **Alignment**
   We will align our business strategy to be consistent with and contribute to individuals’ needs and society’s goals, as expressed in the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Climate Agreement and relevant national and regional frameworks.

2. **Impact & Target Setting**
   We will continuously increase our positive impacts while reducing the negative impacts on, and managing the risks to, people and environment resulting from our activities, products and services. To this end, we will set and publish targets where we can have the most significant impacts.

3. **Clients & Customers**
   We will work responsibly with our clients and our customers to encourage sustainable practices and enable economic activities that create shared prosperity for current and future generations.

4. **Stakeholders**
   We will proactively and responsibly consult, engage and partner with relevant stakeholders to achieve society’s goals.

5. **Governance & Culture**
   We will implement our commitment to these Principles through effective governance and a culture of responsible banking.

6. **Transparency & Accountability**
   We will periodically review our individual and collective implementation of these Principles and be transparent about and accountable for our positive and negative impacts and our contribution to society’s goals.

**Key features of the Principles**

- Comprehensive framework addressing the strategic, portfolio and transaction level across all of the bank’s business areas
- Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement
- Target-Setting in the areas of most significant positive and negative impact
- Transparency and Accountability through public reporting and review
- Guidance, expert advice and peer learning to support implementation

www.unep.org
Banks that are become Founding Signatories of the Principles for Responsible Banking on 22nd September (as of 17 Sep. 2019):

1. ABANCA
2. ABN AMRO
3. Absa Bank
4. Access Bank
5. Allied Irish Banks (AIB)
6. ALEXBANK
7. Alpha Bank
8. Amalgamated Bank
9. Arab African International Bank (AAIB)
10. Arion Bank
11. Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited
12. Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena
13. Bancolombia
14. Banco Bradesco
15. Banco de Fomento Agropecuario
16. Banco Galicia
17. Banco General
18. Banco Guayaquil
20. Banco Pichincha
21. Banco Popular Dominicano
22. Banco Promerica Costa Rica
23. Banco Sabadell
24. Banesco Panama
25. Bankia
26. Banorte
27. Banpro Grupo Promerica Nicaragua
28. Banque Misr
29. Barclays
30. BBVA
31. BBVA Argentina
32. BBVA Mexico
33. BBVA USA
34. BCC-Grupo Cooperativo Cajamar
35. Beneficial State Bank
36. BMCE Bank of Africa
37. BNP Paribas
38. BPCE
39. Caixa Bank
40. Caixa Geral de Depositos
41. CIB
42. CIMB
43. Citi
44. Citibank
45. Commerzbank
46. Coopeservidores
47. Credit Agricole
48. Credit Suisse
49. Danske Bank
50. Desjardins Group
51. Deutsche Bank
52. Development Bank of the Philippines
53. Development and Investment Bank of Turkey
54. De Volksbank
55. DGB Financial Group
56. DNB
57. Ecology Building Society
58. Eurobank
59. Fana Sparebank
60. First City Monument Bank
61. Garanti BBVA
62. Gatehouse Bank
63. GLS Bank
64. Global Bank
65. Globalance Bank
66. Golomt Bank
67. Hana Financial Group
68. Handelsbanken
69. Hua Xia Bank
70. ICBC
71. IDLC Finance Limited
72. Industrial Bank (China)
73. Industrial Development Bank of Turkey (TSKB)
74. ING
75. Innovation Credit Union
76. Itaú Unibanco
77. Intesa Sanpaolo
78. J. Safra Sarasin
79. Jyske Bank
80. Julius Baer
81. Keio Bank
82. KB Financial Group
83. KCB Group
84. KBC Group
85. Keystone Bank
86. KLP Banken
87. La Banque Postale
88. LABORAL Kutxa
89. Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa
90. Landesbank Baden Württemberg
91. Landsbankinn
92. Lloyds Banking Group
93. Maha agriculture microfinance
94. Mauritius Commercial Bank
95. Mitsubishi UFG Financial Group
96. Mizuho Financial Group
97. National Australia Bank
98. National Bank of Canada
99. Natixis
100. Nordea
101. OP Financial Group
102. Piraeus Bank
103. Polaris Bank
104. Produbanco Grupo Promerica
105. Rabobank
106. The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc.
107. Santander
108. SEB
109. Şekerbank
110. Shinhan Financial Group
111. Societe Generale
112. Sovcombank
113. SpareBank 1 Ostlandet
114. SpareBank 1 SMN
115. SpareBank 1 SR-Bank
116. Sparkasse Bank (Macedonia)
117. Standard Bank Group
118. Standard Chartered
119. Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group
120. Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings
121. Suncorp Bank
122. Swedbank
123. Triodos Bank
124. UBS
125. Vision Banco
126. Wema Bank
127. Westpac Group
128. Yapı Kredi Bank
129. Yes Bank
130. Zenith Bank