

Announcement:

Franco-German Initiative welcomes EU Capital Markets Recovery Package and claims for more Reforms on specific Issues

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Five French and German associations from the financial sector have jointly commented on the EU Capital Markets Recovery Package. The five associations are very supportive of the approach taken by the European Commission (EC). Nevertheless, they consider that on some specific issues reforms should go a step further to fully benefit to the financing of the Union's economic recovery. The five associations also very much welcome the EU Capital Markets Recovery Package in light of the growing probability of a hard Brexit and the EC's and co-legislators' ambitions to revamp the CMU project to preserve the competitiveness of EU-27 financial markets actors and to develop the Union's sovereignty in the financing of its economy. The five Members of the initiative are the Association française des marchés financiers (AMAFI), Deutscher Derivate Verband (DDV, German Derivatives Association), Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband (DSGV – German Savings Banks Association), Fédération bancaire française (FBF) and the French association of the structured and listed retail investment products (AFPDB).

“Capital markets regulation has long since ceased to be a purely national task. The German-French position paper illustrates that there are many similarities between the German and the French capital markets. It is our goal to join these forces in order to achieve appropriate solutions for the improvement of the current legal framework”, says Dr. Karl-Peter Schackmann-Fallis, Managing Director and Member of the Board of Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband (DSGV) – German Savings Banks Association.

“This Germano-French position paper is a perfect illustration of the capacity to work together in order to offer regulatory and practical solutions which are beneficial to the markets and the economy as a whole. I strongly believe that joining German and French forces is crucial in a context where the deepening and the competitiveness of financial markets has become a priority, while guaranteeing to investors a high degree of satisfaction.” says Dr. Henning Bergmann, CEO and Member of the Board of Directors at Deutscher Derivate Verband (DDV).

“At a time where financial markets have a major role to play in supporting the Union’s economic recovery, I am convinced that the expertise brought by this Franco-German coalition is critical to provide targeted amendments to improve existing capital markets rules. In this joint paper we highlight key recommendations in order to make EU-27 financial markets more competitive and efficient in financing the European economy while ensuring a high level of investor protection and increasing transparency. I very much look forward to continuing this fruitful collaboration with our German colleagues on this file as well as on upcoming ones in order to complete the Capital Markets Union”, says Stéphane Giordano, Chairman of the French Financial Market Association (AMAFI).

The Association française des marchés financiers (AMAFI) is the trade organisation working at national, European and international levels to represent financial market participants in France. AMAFI has more than 150 members operating for their own account or for clients in equities, fixed-income, structured products and derivatives. Nearly one-third of its members are subsidiaries or branches of non-French institutions. It acts on behalf of credit institutions, investment firms and trading and post-trade infrastructures, regardless of where they operate or where their clients or counterparties are located. <http://amafi.fr/en>

The Deutscher Derivate Verband (DDV, German Derivatives Association) is the industry body which represents the 15 leading issuers of structured securities with a market share of more than 90 percent in Germany. Its work is supported by 17 sponsoring members, amongst which are exchanges and direct banks. Based in Berlin, Frankfurt and Brussels, the DDV has the mandate to elaborate self-regulatory standards such as the Fairness Code which is observed by the issuers with respect to the structuring, issuing, marketing and trading of structured products. Transparency and education of retail investors is at the heart of its mission. For more information, please consult www.derivateverband.de.

The Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband (DSGV – German Savings Banks Association) is the umbrella organisation of the Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe (Savings Banks Finance Group). The organization includes 376 savings banks, five Landesbank Groups, DekaBank, eight Landesbausparkassen, ten direct insurer groups of the savings banks, and many other financial service providers. The members have leading market shares in German retail banking market. This is particularly true for SME financing and private household's savings and investment products. www.dsgv.de

The Fédération bancaire française (FBF) has for mission to promote the banking and financial industry in France, Europe and around the world. It determines the profession's positions and makes proposals to public authorities and economic/financial authorities. FBF has 340 member banks including 115 foreign banks. Regardless of their size and status, credit institutions licensed as banks and the branch offices of credit institutions in the European Economic Area can, if they wish, become fully-fledged members of the FBF. The central bodies of cooperative or mutual banking groups are also fully-fledged members. The FBF is member of the European Banking Federation (EBF). www.fbf.fr

The French association of the structured and listed retail investment products (AFPDB) represents the interests of the main issuers of structured products that distributed in France. Their product range includes both exchange traded securitised derivative products, such as warrants, turbos and certificates, and structured products (e.g. EMTN) distributed through public offering or private placements. The AFPDB Legal and Regulatory Committee actively contributes to the marketplace reflections on work-streams concerning the showing and distribution of structured products. Industry workshops involving both manufacturers and distributors are periodically organized by the AFPDB. They contribute actively to industry proposals in areas such as the implementation of the main regulations, the investor education programs, the disclosure and communication of key product information to, respectively, distributors and final clients. Information, news and publications: www.afpdb.org