

PRESS RELEASE

ECBC Publishes ECBC Global Concept Note on Third Country Equivalence for Covered Bonds

Brussels, 20 February 2023 – For immediate release

The **European Covered Bond Council (ECBC)** is pleased to announce the publication of the **ECBC Global Concept Note on Third Country Equivalence for Covered Bonds**. Developed by the ECBC Global Issues Working Group, this Note seeks to provide a roadmap aimed at helping regulators and national supervisory authorities outside of the European Economic Area (EEA), and stakeholders in covered bond markets more generally, to better prepare for the potential requirements to fulfil in order to align policy and market best practices to achieve equivalence with the Covered Bond Directive, which was implemented across the EEA as of July 2022. Please, click [here](#) to access the publication.

The ongoing energy crisis and the need to renovate the global housing building stock are now, more than ever, opening up new frontiers for housing finance at a global level. With the adoption of the Covered Bond Directive in the EEA providing further clarity as to what a covered bond is, regulators and lending institutions around the world are increasingly looking to the covered bond asset class as a means to leverage the private financing needed to complement public commitments necessary to meet today's challenges.

The ECBC Global Issues Working Group, chaired by **Colin YS Chen (DBS Bank)**, serves as a discussion forum for exchanging market best practices and as an educational platform for issuers and global investor communities. The overarching aim of the Working Group is to enhance transparency and convergence, and to ensure that there is a progressive common understanding of the covered bond concept, with similar market solutions and infrastructures, and more importantly, comparable regulatory treatment.

Commenting on this publication, **Luca Bertalot**, EMF-ECBC Secretary General, stated:

“Covered bonds have been implemented across all continents and represent a crucial pillar for capital market developments. Through the Covered Bond Label, the ECBC has succeeded in building a secure and comparable means of qualitative disclosure alignment around the world, and we remain fully committed to further strengthening the global covered bond market in this new era of the Covered Bond Directive.”

The ECBC Global Concept Note on Third Country Equivalence for Covered Bonds will be presented officially on the occasion of the **Euromoney/ECBC Asian Covered Bond Roadshow** taking place in Sentosa, **Singapore (8-9 March 2023)**. The purpose of the event is to maximise the opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the latest fundamental developments in the Asian covered bond market specifically and evolutions in the global market more generally.

Contact:

Luca Bertalot

Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)

Tel. +32 2 285 40 33

lbartalot@hypo.org

Notes to the Editor:

1. Established in 1967, the **European Mortgage Federation** ([EMF](#)) is the voice of the European mortgage industry, representing the interests of mortgage lenders and covered bond issuers at European level. The EMF provides data and information on European mortgage markets, which were worth around 8.3 trillion EUR at the end of 2021 (EU27 + UK). As of February 2023, the EMF has 14 members across 12 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
2. In 2004 the EMF founded the **European Covered Bond Council** ([ECBC](#)), a platform bringing together covered bond issuers, analysts, investment bankers, rating agencies and a wide range of interested stakeholders. As of February 2023, the ECBC has 120 members across more than 30 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth over EUR 2.9 trillion at the end of 2021.
3. The **Covered Bond Label Foundation** ([CBLF](#)) was established in 2012 by the European Mortgage Federation - European Covered Bond Council ([EMF-ECBC](#)). The Covered Bond Label [website](#) became fully operational on the 1st of January 2013, with the first Labels being effective since then. The website features the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT), published by 126 issuers disclosing information on 165 labelled cover pools across 24 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on over 5,300 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of around 2.1 trillion EUR, out of which over 3,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) or visit the [EMF-ECBC](#).