

Press Release

November 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

## Contact Information

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management Co., Ltd.

Stewardship Development Department

Tel. +81 3 6453 3892

Email: ssglobal@smtam.jp

## Endorsement of the Financial Sector Commitment Letter on Eliminating Commodity-Driven Deforestation

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Representative Director and President: Yoshio Hishida; hereinafter "SuMi TRUST") is pleased to announce that it has signed the Financial Sector Commitment Letter on Eliminating Commodity-Driven Deforestation announced at the 26th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26). This initiative is supported by over 30 financial institutions worldwide (with over US\$8.7 trillion in assets under management) and SuMi TRUST is the only Japanese asset management firm to endorse the commitment at this time.

SuMi TRUST supports the aims of the Paris Agreement, which seeks to limit the rise in global average temperature well below 2°C, preferably to 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels. In addition, through our participation in the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative, we aim to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from our portfolio companies by 2050. In the pursuit of the goal of net zero, the conservation of the world's major primeval forests, such as the Amazon and the tropical rainforests of Southeast Asia, is a prerequisite for upholding the Paris Agreement since forest resources are effective in absorbing greenhouse gases. The destruction of primeval forests due to grain production in particular, which has accelerated in recent years, contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, making forest conservation a critical issue globally.

SuMi TRUST is already engaging with a variety of stakeholders, including not only companies it deals with, but also local authorities and NGOs for the conservation of tropical rainforests in the Amazon and in South-East Asia. By participating in this initiative, we will further strengthen our engagement with target companies, countries, and related organizations to prevent deforestation.

## **About SuMi TRUST**

SuMi TRUST is one of the largest asset management companies in Japan and Asia, with over USD 769 billion\* in assets under management. As a responsible institutional investor with the corporate vision of “Realizing opportunities today to ensure sustainable prosperity for tomorrow”, SuMi TRUST is committed to addressing ESG issues from a global perspective through constructive dialogue with companies in its portfolio and collaboration with international organizations promoting ESG efforts in various fields. In addition to pursuing new forms of asset management that is appropriate for the times, by contributing to the development of a more prosperous and sustainable society, we will strive to maximize the medium- to long-term investment returns of our customers.

(\* ) As of the end of September 2021

## Disclaimer

This document has not been approved by or registered with any regulatory or governmental authority in any jurisdiction. The information and opinions contained in this document do not purport to be full or complete and do not constitute investment advice. All copyrights regarding this material, other than the parts quoted from other companies' materials, belong to Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management Co., Ltd. This material may not be used or reproduced in part or in whole for any purpose without its express permission. Should you have any questions as to this material, please address them to Stewardship Development Department.

## **Disclaimer – UK**

This marketing communication is issued by Sumitomo Mitsui Trust International Limited (“SMTI”). SMTI is authorised and regulated by the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority (the “FCA”), whose address is 12 Endeavour Square, London, E20 1JN, United Kingdom.

This marketing communication has been made available to you only because SMTI has classified you as a professional client in accordance with the FCA’s rules. If you have received this marketing communication from a source other than SMTI, you should contact SMTI before using it or relying on it. You must not send this marketing communication to any other person without first having received written approval from SMTI.

The information contained in this marketing communication (the “Material”) is being made available for information purposes only and is designed to provide information on the investment services which SMTI may offer to clients.

Nothing in the Material amounts to or should be construed as an actual offer by SMTI to provide any investment services to any person. If SMTI agrees to provide any investment services to any person, those services will be the subject of a separate written agreement between SMTI and that person. Furthermore, the Material has not been prepared with any consideration of the individual circumstances of any person to whom it is communicated.

Accordingly, it is not intended to, and does not, constitute a personnel recommendation in relation to the purchase or sale of, or exercise of any rights in relation to, any financial instruments or advice in relation to any investment policy or strategy to be followed. The Material also does not contain the results of any investment research carried out by SMTI and is not intended to amount to a financial promotion of any particular financial instrument which may be referred to in it.

While SMTI uses all reasonable endeavours to ensure the Material is accurate, it has not been prepared with a view to any person relying on it. Accordingly, SMTI accepts no responsibility for any loss caused to any recipient of this document as a result of any error, inaccuracy or incompleteness in the Material, nor for any error in the transmission or receipt of this communication.

Any enquiries regarding the products should be made to:

Hirofumi Hayashi

Head of Investment Management Department

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust International Limited

155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XU, United Kingdom

Direct: +44 (0)20 7562 8405

Email: [imd@smtil.com](mailto:imd@smtil.com)

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust International Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

© Sumitomo Mitsui Trust International Limited 2025