

PRESS RELEASE - PRESS RELEASE - PRESS RELEASE

"BNP Paribas Fortis Brings Belgium to the Covered Bond Label Family"

Brussels, 06 October 2016 - For immediate release

The **Covered Bond Label Foundation** (<u>CBLF</u>) is delighted to announce that <u>BNP Paribas Fortis</u> has become the 79th issuer to join the Covered Bond Label. Moreover, the Belgium-based bank's adhesion to the Label brings the total number of covered bond jurisdictions represented by the Label to 15 and the total number of labelled cover pools to 95.

Commenting on BNP Paribas Fortis' decision to join the Label, Luca Bertalot, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

"We welcome BNP Paribas Fortis as a new labelled issuer. Over recent months we have seen a significant increase in appetite for the Covered Bond Label, from both new countries and from issuers active in jurisdictions already covered. The fact that the Covered Bond Label continues to gain ground in new countries, such as Belgium, shows that issuers and investors around the world see the added value of the improved due diligence and transparency that the Label can provide."

Information on all Covered Bond Label issuers as well as more information regarding the Covered Bond Label itself can be found at www.coveredbondlabel.com.

Contact:

Luca Bertalot
Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)
Tel. +32 2 285 40 33

info@coveredbondlabel.com

Notes to the Editor:

- 1. The Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF) was established in 2012 by the 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) and 14 National Transparency Templates, published by 79 issuers disclosing information on 95 labelled cover pools across 15 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on close to 4,300 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of over 1.4 trillion EUR, out of which over 2,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
- 2. 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 over 7 trillion EUR at the end of 2015. As of October 2016, the EMF has 19 members across 14 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
- 3. In 2004 the EMF founded the **European Covered Bond Council** (<u>ECBC</u>), a platform bringing together covered bond issuers, analysts, investment bankers, rating agencies and a wide range of interested stakeholders. As of



October 2016, the ECBC has over 100 members across 26 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth nearly 2.5 trillion EUR at the end of 2015.

4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>YouTube</u> or visit the EMF-ECBC <u>blog</u>.