

"Alpha Bank joins Covered Bond Label as first Greek issuer"

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The **Covered Bond Label Foundation** (CBLF) is delighted to announce that **Alpha Bank** A.E. has become the first Greek issuer to join the Covered Bond Label, and the 96th issuer overall to hold the Label. Following the bank's accession, the total number of cover pools now bearing the Covered Bond Label stands at 113.

Commenting on this latest addition to the Label, Luca Bertalot, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

"The decision of Alpha Bank to join the Covered Bond Label confirms the importance for new covered bond market participants to ensure maximum transparency by implementing the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT)."

Commenting on this latest addition to the Label **Nikolaos Zagorissios, Senior Manager of Capital Management and Banking Supervision Division,** said:

"Alpha Bank, as the first Greek bank to obtain the Covered Bond Label, further strengthens its longestablished relationship with the international investor community, being prepared to fully comply with common standards as well as transparency and comparability requirements, already met by global covered bond issuers".

To recap, the Covered Bond Label is a quality label, the purpose of which is to highlight the security and quality of covered bonds to investors and to further enhance recognition of and trust in the covered bond asset class.

The Covered Bond Label is open to all covered bond programmes that are compliant with the Covered Bond Label Convention and disclose their data by publishing the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT). More information on all labelled issuers and the Label itself can be found on the Covered Bond Label website 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 (<u>CBLF</u>) was established in 2012 by the European Mortgage Federation – European Covered Bond Council (<u>EMF-ECBC</u>). The Covered Bond Label <u>website</u> 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 96 issuers disclosing information on 113 labelled cover pools across 17 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on 4,800 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of over 1.5 trillion EUR, out of which over 2,500 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 around 7 trillion EUR at the end of 2016. As of January 2018, the EMF has 16 members across 13 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
- 3. 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 January 2018, the ECBC has 116 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 nearly EUR 2.5 tn at the end of 2016.
- 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>website</u>.