



COVERED BOND  
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PRESS RELEASE

## “2019 Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT): Launched and ready for lift-off in Q1 2019”

Brussels, 18 September 2018 – For immediate release

The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** is delighted to announce the formal adoption of the new and enhanced **2019 version of the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT)**.

The 2019 HTT will be mandatory for all Covered Bond Label issuers as of the end of Q1 2019 and is already available for download [here](#). The revised 2019 HTT is the result of the Label’s annual review process undertaken in collaboration with market participants across three continents (Europe, Asia and North America) and it was approved during the Covered Bond Label Committee Meeting in Munich on 11 September 2018, and officially launched on occasion of the [28<sup>th</sup> ECBC Plenary meeting](#).

The annual review of the HTT plays a pivotal role in the Label’s effort to keep pace with current and prepare for future regulatory requirements allowing for cross-border data comparison in a centralised manner and a harmonised format. The latest changes in the HTT template will affect c. €1.6 trillion of covered bonds outstanding as registered on the Cover Bond Label platform.

Commenting on these developments, **Luca Bertalot**, CBLF Administrator, said:

*“The annual update of HTT is an extremely important exercise aimed at maintaining the quality of Cover Pool asset disclosures at the highest possible level and in line with market best practices. The strong market consensus to provide investors with a robust market instrument for their due diligence, fine-tuned every year and immediately implemented by all CB Label issuers, demonstrates the Covered Bond Label’s commitment to remaining the leading benchmark for market transparency and disclosure.”*

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](http://www.coveredbondlabel.com).



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**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 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2013, with the first Labels being effective since then. As of September 2018, the website features the Harmonised Transparency Template and 14 National Transparency Templates, 104 issuer profiles and information on 121 labelled cover pools. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data around 5,000 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of over 1.6 trillion EUR, out of which over 2,700 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 c. 7.0 trillion EUR at the end of 2017. As of September 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 September 2018, the ECBC has 122 members across 30 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth c. 2.5 trillion EUR at the end of 2017.
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) or visit [EMF | ECBC website](#).