

PRESS RELEASE

The Covered Bond Label increases its presence to 22 jurisdictions with Komerční Banka from Czechia joining

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The **Covered Bond Label Foundation** (CBLF) is pleased to announce that **Komerční banka, a. s.** has joined the Covered Bond Label, which now counts a total of **118** issuers and **144** cover pools.

Commenting on this development, Luca Bertalot, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

"With Komerční banka joining from Czechia we are delighted to welcome both a new issuer and a new jurisdiction to the Covered Bond Label family. The growing presence of the Label in Central and Eastern Europe is a sign of both the ongoing interest in this asset class as well as confirmation that the Covered Bond Label enjoys ever-greater recognition by market participants wishing to demonstrate their commitment to transparency through the implementation of the Label's Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT)."

Jiří Šperl, KB's Chief Financial Officer from Komerční banka, a. s. commented:

"Through the recent bond issuance, Komerční banka was able to benefit from the favourable conditions in the international debt capital markets in order to diversify funding sources in euro in respect of ever growing demand from our corporate clients for financing in the single European currency. By joining the Covered Bond Label, we confirm our commitment to full transparency towards market participants in the covered bond space, as has been our practice on the equity market as well as all other areas of the financial markets"

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.

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Notes to the Editor:

- 1. 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) and 14 National Transparency Templates, published by 118 issuers disclosing information on 144 labelled cover pools across 22 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on 5,300 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of around 2.0 trillion EUR, out of which over 3,000 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 around EUR 7.6 trillion at the end of 2019. As of April 2021, the EMF has 13 members across 12 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 April 2021, the ECBC has 124 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 2.7 trillion at the end of 2019.
- 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 <u>EMF-ECBC</u>.