

**MUFG Bank, Ltd.**

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For Immediate Release

### **MUFG NOW (Net Zero World) opens in Hong Kong amidst growing commitment by business community towards addressing climate change**

**Hong Kong, 18 October 2023** – MUFG Bank, Ltd. (MUFG) yesterday gathered over 100 business leaders, policymakers and industry experts to its MUFG NOW conference in Hong Kong.

MUFG NOW, or Net Zero World, is a networking and thought leadership platform that brings together private and public stakeholders to strengthen collective responses to the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development in the region.

The event was hosted by the bank's ESG finance team for Asia Pacific and Hong Kong branch and saw leading companies like CLP Power and Henderson Land in attendance alongside senior representatives from Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the International Capital Markets Association (ICMA).

The strong reception to MUFG NOW underscores a growing awareness and commitment amongst companies in Hong Kong in embracing sustainability and incorporating ESG best practices and solutions in their businesses.

Colin Chen, MUFG's Head of ESG Finance for APAC, said that Hong Kong is one of the most important markets for the bank's sustainable finance business, having contributed to 36% of MUFG's ESG financing in the region for FY2022.

"In Hong Kong, we have seen a growing demand for ESG financing solutions and advisory from local and Chinese corporates. The Hong Kong business sector is very willing to look at embracing ESG solutions more laterally, not solely from a commercial or cost-of-funds standpoint, but in how these can help them meaningfully fulfil their climate vision and objectives.

"Given Hong Kong's importance as a regional green finance and innovation hub, we will continue to proactively engage all stakeholders here, through important platforms such as MUFG NOW, to harness the city's strengths in support of Asia's Net Zero transition," Mr. Chen added.

Tony Lee, MUFG's Head of Global Corporate Banking for East Asia and Co-Head of its Hong Kong branch said: "Hong Kong's foundation as a financial hub and super-connector between global markets and Mainland China remain sound. Its next stage of growth, however, will depend on how it can further accelerate its ESG ecosystem to attract talent, foster green tech innovation and channel capital to both the city's green transition as well as Asia's decarbonisation.

"It has been encouraging to see the growing sense of urgency demonstrated by Hong Kong's regulatory offices and corporates in driving climate action, and we will continue to ensure that we partner them on this important journey in alignment with the city's ESG ambitions," he added.

*(Please refer to the photos and captions below)*



MUFG executives and VIP guests at the MUFG NOW conference in Hong Kong. Standing fifth from left is Richard Yorke, MUFG's head of Global Corporate and Investment Banking for Asia Pacific; sixth from left is Kenneth Hui, Executive Director (External) from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, and standing fifth from right is Hiroshi Masaki, Head of MUFG Hong Kong Branch.



Fireside chat participants at the MUFG NOW event in Hong Kong agreed on the importance of looking at financial solutions that address both the environmental and social impacts of climate change to ensure a just and equitable transition to Net Zero for Asia. From left to right: Tomohiro Ishikawa, MUFG's Chief Regulatory Engagement Officer, Ricco Zhang, International Capital Market Association (ICMA)'s Senior Director, Asia Pacific and Colin Chen, MUFG's Head of ESG Finance for Asia Pacific.





Leaders from Hong Kong's business community shared their companies' experiences in sustainability transition. From left to right: Vignesh Shanmugasundaram, BlackRock Alternatives' Head of APAC Investments for Infrastructure Solutions; Francis Ho, CLP's Senior Director for Group Treasury and Project Finance; Johnny Yu, Henderson Land's Head of Sustainability and Daniel Yu, The Asset magazine's Editor-in-Chief. The Asset is MUFG's media partner for the conference.

### About MUFG

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG) is one of the world's leading financial groups. Headquartered in Tokyo and with over 360 years of history, MUFG has a global network with approximately 2,000 locations in more than 50 markets. The Group has about 160,000 employees and offers services including commercial banking, trust banking, securities, credit cards, consumer finance, asset management, and leasing.

The Group aims to "be the world's most trusted financial group" through close collaboration among our operating companies and flexibly respond to all of the financial needs of our customers, serving society, and fostering shared and sustainable growth for a better world. MUFG's shares trade on the Tokyo, Nagoya, and New York stock exchanges.

MUFG Bank, Ltd. is Japan's premier bank, with a global network spanning more than 50 markets. Outside of Japan, the bank offers an extensive scope of commercial and investment banking products and services to businesses, governments and individuals worldwide.

In Asia Pacific, MUFG has presence across Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

It has also formed strategic partnerships with some of the most prominent banks in South-east Asia, further augmenting its unrivalled network across the region – VietinBank in Vietnam, Krungsri in Thailand, Security Bank in the Philippines and Bank Danamon in Indonesia.

For more information about our Asia Pacific network, click [here](#).

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