

June 19, 2012

To whom it may concern

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc.

**Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc. signs “The Natural Capital Declaration”**

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc. announces that it has become a signatory to “The Natural Capital Declaration,<sup>(\*1)</sup>” which the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (“UNEP FI”) plans to advocate at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development “Rio+20”<sup>(\*2)</sup>.

- (\*1) The original text in English and its Japanese translation are available on the website of the Natural Capital Declaration Office : <http://www.naturalcapitaldeclaration.org/>
- (\*2) The international conference which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The floor will discuss a new systematic framework concerning the changeover to a “Green Economy” for the cause of economic growth and ecology. With the opening of “Rio+20”, UNEP FI effectuated “The Natural Capital Declaration” on June 16, 2012.

“The Natural Capital Declaration” defines the resources that are needed to preserve the earth’s ecosystem as “Natural Capital,” which consists of natural assets such as soil, air, water, and biodiversity. The declaration states that financial institutions will play an active role in helping to preserve the sustainable use of natural capital.

Recognizing that promoting the sustainability of natural resources for the ecosystem through appropriate economic and social evaluation is an important issue, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Group has been working on the development of many financial products and services. In addition, at the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (“COP10”), which was held in Nagoya in October 2012, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Group and UNEP FI contributed to the initiation of a basic discussion to decide on policies relating to “The Natural Capital Declaration” by gathering the financial institutions participating in COP10.

By becoming a signatory to “The Natural Capital Declaration”, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Group will further promote these initiatives and make its own contribution toward a world with the sustainable use of natural capital.

(Reference)

The major products and services of Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Group that contribute to the sustainable use of natural capital

Products and services	Eco-friendliness of products	Handling company
Environmentally-rated Loans	The corporate approach to biodiversity is the main evaluation criteria.	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited
Consulting for Environmentally- Friendly Development and Construction	Consideration toward green areas in local real estate. Support in obtaining third-party certification, i.e. the Japan Habitat Evaluation Procedures (“JHEP” <sup>(*3)</sup> ).	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited
Social Contribution Donation Trust	Providing customers with the choice to make donations to the Ecosystem Conservation Society—Japan as a way to support the National Trust activity	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited
Biodiversity SRI Fund	Invests in Japanese companies actively working to protect biodiversity.	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management Co., Ltd.

(\*3) Operated by the Ecosystem Conservation Society-Japan to evaluate and certify contributions toward the conservation and recovery of biodiversity.

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