

European Association of Co-operative Banks Groupement Européen des Banques Coopératives Europäische Vereinigung der Genossenschaftsbanken

## EACB Press Release:

## EACB issues its annual report 2014

*08 April, Brussels* – The European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB) is pleased to announce the release of <u>its annual report 2014</u> -including key statistics on the co-operative banking sector-. The report highlights the activities and achievements of the EACB in 2014 and voices the concerns and expectations of 4,200 banks in Europe.

At this occasion Hervé Guider, General Manager of the EACB, declared: 'Over the past 12 months, the EACB has permanently argued for the recognition of the specificities cooperatives banks as well as advocated for the diversity of the banking business models for the benefit of the consumers and for the stability of the banking industry.' He further added 'The recent declarations of the new Commissioner Lord Jonathan Hill on the proportionality are encouraging for the future. Co-operative Banks are contributing significantly to the dialogue with the policy and rule makers and support all initiatives to boost growth and jobs in Europe.'

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## About the EACB:

The European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB) has been the voice of co-operative banks since 1970. It represents, promotes and defends the common interests of its 31 member institutions and of co-operative banks in general. Co-operative banks form decentralized networks which are subject to banking as well as co-operative legislation. With 4,200 locally operating banks and 68,000 outlets, co-operative banks play a major role in the financial and economic system. They serve almost 205 million customers, mainly consumers, SMEs and communities. Europe's cooperative banks represent 78 million members and 860,000 employees and have an average market share of about 20%. Their resilience during the crisis make co-operative banks a key driving force in the economic recovery.

## Website: www.eacb.coop

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The voice of 4,200 local and retail banks, 78 million members, 205 million customers

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