



EACB PRESS RELEASE

Today's vote on the revision of MiFID is an important milestone in reforming the provision of financial services in Europe but many challenges lie ahead

Brussels, 15 April 2014 – Today, the European Parliament adopted the revised Markets in Financial Instruments Directive and the Markets in Financial Instruments Regulation (MiFID II / MiFIR). The European Association of Co-operative banks (EACB) welcomes today's vote as an important milestone in reforming the provision of services in financial instruments in Europe, noting that many implementation challenges still lie ahead. It welcomes the legislator's decision to refrain from imposing a total ban on inducements.

Investment advice based on inducements guarantees the provision of qualified investment advice for all sections of the population and on a country-wide basis, hence in addition to urban also to rural areas. The EACB General Manager, Hervé Guider, said: *"We fully support the objective of customers being better protected and have actively promoted absolute transparency on cost and revenue structures. We believe that clients should have the possibility to choose the model of investment support that would best fit their investment objective and that transparent disclosure of inducements will help guide the client in making an informed decision."*

As the type of remuneration is no indication of the quality of investment advice, the EACB regrets that MiFID II provides a categorization between "dependent" and "independent" investment advice. In any case, the categorisation should not lead to placing an investment firm in a situation where they need to decide between one option or another.

Having in mind the various technical details that need to be developed by the Regulators, the EACB is looking forward to engaging with the European Commission, ESMA and other stakeholders in the development of the Level 2 measures to ensure that the legislation properly addresses the diversity of banking industry.

EACB Contact:

General Manager: Hervé GUIDER (Tel : +32 2 286 98 40), herve.guider@eacb.coop
Head of Retail Banking, Payment Systems and Financial Markets: Marieke van BERKEL (Tel.: +32 286 98 47), marieke.vanberkel@eacb.coop

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 29 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 3,700 locally operating banks and 71,000 outlets, co-operative banks play a major role in the financial and economic system. They serve more than 215 million customers, mainly consumers, SMEs and communities. Europe's co-operative banks represent 56 million members and 850.000 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.

Stay in touch!



www.eacb.coop



@eurocoopbanks

The voice of 3.700 local and retail banks, 56 million members, 215 million customers

EACB AISBL – Secretariat • Rue de l'Industrie 26-38 • B-1040 Brussels

Tel: (+32 2) 230 11 24 • Fax (+32 2) 230 06 49 • Enterprise 0896.081.149 • lobbying register 4172526951-19

www.eacb.coop • e-mail : secretariat@eacb.coop