



EACB Press Release:

Six co-operative banking groups signatories of the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Banking

22nd of September 2019—Today, the [Principles for Responsible Banking](#) were publicly launched, at a high-level event during the **United Nations General Assembly** in New-York. The event brought together bank CEOs and global thought leaders, bank sustainability leads as well as environmental and sustainable development experts to explore the implementation and impact potential of the newly launched Principles for Responsible Banking, but also, investors, stakeholders, policy makers & regulators, academia, civil society organizations and international media.

The Principles for Responsible Banking provide the framework for a sustainable banking system in which a bank's business strategy is aligned with society's goals, and guide banks in demonstrating how they are making a positive contribution to society – an increasing expectation of their customers, clients, employees and investors, as well as society-at-large.

« The European Association of Cooperatives Banks (EACB) is a proud supporter on the initiative by being one of the firsts endorsers of the Principles for Responsible Banking. Indeed, Co-operative banks are stakeholder banks and aim to build a better world since their origins. Because it is in their very roots, they are a driving force towards a more sustainable and inclusive economy in their respective eco system. » said **Gerhard Hofmann**, EACB President.

During the event, the following co-operative banking groups, members of the EACB, have signed the principles: Rabobank, BCC Grupo cajamar, Desjardins, Crédit Agricole S.A., Groupe BPCE and OP Financial Group.

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About the EACB:

The **European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB)** is the voice of the co-operative banks in Europe. It represents, promotes and defends the common interests of its 27 member institutions and of co-operative banks in general. Co-operative banks form decentralised networks which are subject to banking as well as co-operative legislation. Democracy, transparency and proximity are the three key characteristics of the co-operative banks' business model. With 3,000 locally operating banks and 53,000 outlets co-operative banks are widely represented throughout the enlarged European Union, playing a major role in the financial and economic system. They have a long tradition in serving 210 million customers, mainly consumers, retailers and communities. The co-operative banks in Europe represent 81 million members and 742,000 employees and have a total average market share of about 20%.

Website: www.eachb.coop

The voice of 2.914 local and retail banks, 81 million members, 209 million customers in EU

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