

## < SMBC Group Statement on Sustainability >

Throughout its 400-year history, SMBC Group has continuously upheld its commitment to sustainability. We hereby declare that we will drive forward our efforts to make sustainability a reality.

SMBC Group defines sustainability as “creating a society in which today’s generation can enjoy economic prosperity and well-being, and pass it on to future generations.”

### < Priority Issues (Materiality) and Background >

For more than 400 years, we have consistently regarded sustainability as a cause fundamental to our business operations, and to this day it remains the foundation of our management.

The predecessor to Mitsui began as a kimono merchant in Edo (present-day Tokyo) in 1673, bringing innovation to the conventional business practices of that time and establishing a new business model which took root in the communities of the townspeople of Edo. Mitsui entered the currency exchange business in 1683 and became one of the industry leaders in the Edo period. As a bank since the Meiji era, Mitsui has been an important player in the financial infrastructure which has underpinned economic activity in Japan and the world for more than three centuries over many generations.

The predecessor to Sumitomo developed a highly advanced copper refining method for its time around 1600. As a result of this technological innovation, Japan was one of the world's leading copper producing countries for more than two centuries over many generations during the Edo period.

Sumitomo also noted environmental issues from early on. When a manager visited a company copper mine in 1894 and witnessed the devastation that was being inflicted on the mountains, he grieved and said that doing nothing about this would be unethical. Seeking to remedy the situation, the company resolved to undertake reforestation and provided abundant greenery for future generations and a safe and secure life for local communities.

Looking back across our history, we have been consistently dedicated to our priority issues, focusing especially on the “environment” as a corporate citizen that protects the green earth, as well as on “community” and “next generation” as a member of society. SMBC Group is an enterprise that has always taken social sustainability into account when managing its business.

### < Understanding of the Present Situation and Our Role >

SMBC Group recognizes that society is presently facing immense challenges, and that urgent and bold actions and transformation are required to transition to a sustainable and resilient world. Based on this understanding, SMBC Group aims to realize Sustainable Development Goals (“SDGs”) as set forth by the United Nations for sustainable development and to resolve social issues. As a financial institution, we will engage and act together with customers and other stakeholders to contribute to the global transformation into a better society.

In particular, the environment is an irreplaceable asset shared between generations, and is the foundation of social sustainability. Once damaged, it is difficult to restore, and we recognize that innovation is essential to resolve environmental issues such as climate change. Today’s generation recognizes that it has a responsibility to bequeath the environment to future generations. Based on this recognition, SMBC Group supports the spirit of the Paris Agreement and will contribute to resolving environmental issues.

We hereby declare that we remain fully committed in our efforts to make sustainability a reality.